

AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

COINS AND MEDALS

REPORT NUMBER ONE

APRC REPORT NUMBER ONE ON MEDALS AND COINS

Ref. (a) Public Law 89-491

Encl. 1 Correspondence Concerning Coins and Medals

Encl. 2 Concise Information Concerning Coins and Medals

Encl. 3 Authorities in the Field

REQUIREMENTS:

As provided for under ref. (a), Sec. 2(d) and 2(d)7 requiring the submission of a comprehensive report to the President by the Bicentennial Commission, concerning its specific recommendations for, inter alia, the commemoration of the Bicentennial and related events as they pertain to the issuance of commemorative coins, medals, certificates of recognition, and stamps: the following report is submitted as a framework on which to prepare the material for policy recommendations to be inserted not later than 3 May 1970, in the Commission Report.

BACKGROUND:

The commemorative coins and medals must be viewed in two different categories: coins are currency, medals are not. Therefore, when coins only are to be considered, reference must be made as to whether their use is a medium of exchange, currency; or as commemorative articles, minted with the purpose of revenue producing items in mind. Medals are struck as commemorative articles only.

Coins - Various recommendations have been received by the Commission offering help and suggesting events of historical import as subjects for coins both as currency and commemorative articles.

Some examples are listed below:

- (1) "As to coins, I believe a \$1.00 coin should be minted with Washington head on face and Battle of Bunker Hill on reverse." (Encl. 1)
- (2) "I am thinking of a special coinage issue for that year that would remind in the memory of America, events and men who made this Nation great." (Encl. 1)
- (3) "I suggest that you urge Congress to enact legislation authorizing issuance of commemorative: (sic) coins." (Encl. 1)

- (4) "We should also have a Gold commemorative coin." (Encl. 1)
- (5) "... Paramount, as the largest and most experienced firm in numismatic distribution here and around the world, would like to be regarded as a resource to which the Commission would turn for advice ... ." (Encl. 1)

In general, recommendations concerning the minting of commemorative coins have come from four areas: (1) the Treasury Department, (2) Coin Corporations, (3) Numismatist, and (4) the Public. In summary, it could be said at present that the Treasury Department is taking a conservative stand in relation to the origination of new coins; the coin corporations are primarily interested in providing assistance based on a quid pro quo philosophy with the Commission; the numismatists are primarily interested in their collections, reflecting at the same time a genuine purpose in developing American interest in history through numismatism; and the public has a subjective patriotic concern that their ideas for new coins should be taken into consideration by the Commission.

Policy guidelines are obviously needed to provide for the interest shown in these four areas. Therefore, at least five basic questions must be answered (keeping in mind cooperation of the Treasury Department):

- (1) Should a commemorative coin (currency) be made?  
[Numbers 2,3,4, and 5 follow as an affirmative from Number 1]
- (2) Should a change be initiated for every coin, only a few, or a single symbolic coin in the currency system (including paper currency)?
- (3) What would be the schedule for its implementation?
- (4) How will the designs be chosen?
- (5) Should the coins be utilized by the Commission for proofs and sets under special package for the purpose of obtaining revenue?

Medals:

Commemorative medals will be produced for events and characters of the Bicentennial Era --of that there is no question. The primary source of commemorative medals will be private industry, both national and international. Commemorative medals are viewed as existing in two principal areas:

- (1) Public - Those commemorative medals produced by the United States Mint or under government contract which are recognized as originating from and licensed by the Federal, State, or local Bicentennial or other designated commissions whose authority for issuance exists by virtue of ref.(a).
- (2) Private - Those commemorative medals which are developed by private individuals or corporations which are produced, marketed, and sold as a function of demand, and are not licensed by the ARBC as official commemorative articles.

Although there has been only limited public interest to present in commemorative articles for the Bicentennial, the coins have reflected a majority of that interest. However, since the production and sale of medals will be a significant effort of most, if not all, of the coin/medal corporations, their recommendations to the Commission can be expected as qualitative if not quantitative. See reference (3) as examples of assistance to the Commission.

In reviewing the considerations of commemorative medals, many of the same questions concerning the coin program relate also to the medals program.

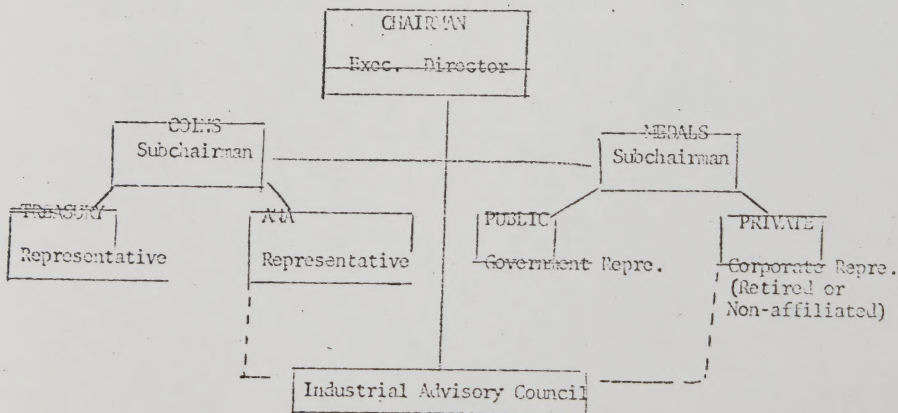
- (1) Should there be a single, official commemorative medal?
- (2) To what extent should official (public) medals be licensed? (One for the Nation, plus one for every state; one for major events and figures; in short, where is the line drawn between official and non-official (licensed) medals?
- (3) When should the schedule for issue begin?
- (4) How will the public designs be chosen?
- (5) In what manner, if any, should profits be considered?

ADVISORY PANEL:

The Advisory Panel should address itself to policy questions, first in relation to its own organization and functions, and second to the coins and medals.

Organizationally, it is recommended that the Advisory Panel adhere to the following schematic:

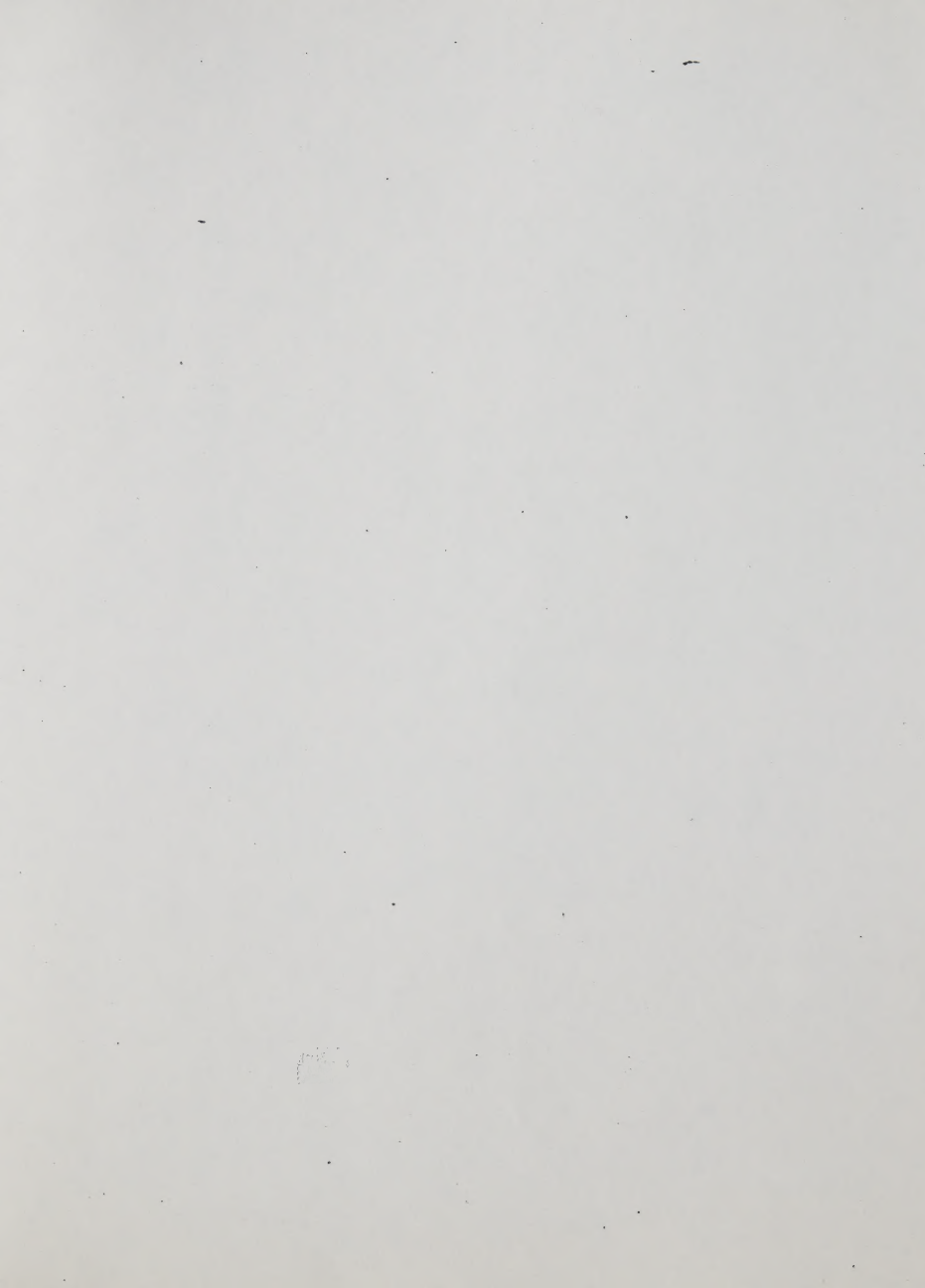
A R B C  
ADVISORY PANEL ON COINS AND MEDALS



Responsibility of the Advisory Panel

Short Term: Develop policy recommendation on coins and medals for submission to the Commission not later than 8 May 1970.

Long Term: Provide continuing guidance to the Commission on all matters relating to the production and distribution of coins and medals.





Wm

March 17, 1970.

Order # 6

Dear Mr. Naser:

I have before me, by reference from the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, your letter of March 10th about coin or medal designs commemorating the 200th anniversary of our independence.

On July 4, 1968, Congress passed Public Law 39-491, establishing an American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, to give appropriate recognition to the observance of this historic event. The report of the Commission is to give special consideration to coins, stamps and medals. We are forwarding your correspondence to Mr. Hugh Hall, American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, Suite 319, Lafayette Building, 311 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20242.

We are pleased to have your comments, and appreciate your thoughtfulness in giving officials the opportunity to review them.

Sincerely,

1935-1936

Frederick W. Tate  
Acting Director of the Mint

cc: Hugh Hall

[illegible]

Mint - BHayden - 3-17-70

endent  
States Mint  
Philadelphia Pa. 19106

MAR 18 1910

Bureau  
Feb  
3/13

Sir:

Since we did not have a commemorative coin (50 cents piece or silver dollar) for the moon landing, I feel the United States Government should issue a coin commemorating our 200th anniversary.

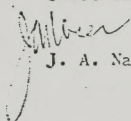
Accordingly I submit a design by my 10 year old daughter, Marijo, which I think incorporates all the symbols that represent America. I feel this would be a good design for a Silver Dollar or a 2 1/2 to 3 inch Bronze Mint Medal. The reverse is the flying eagle from the 19th century U. S. "Flying Eagle" Penny.

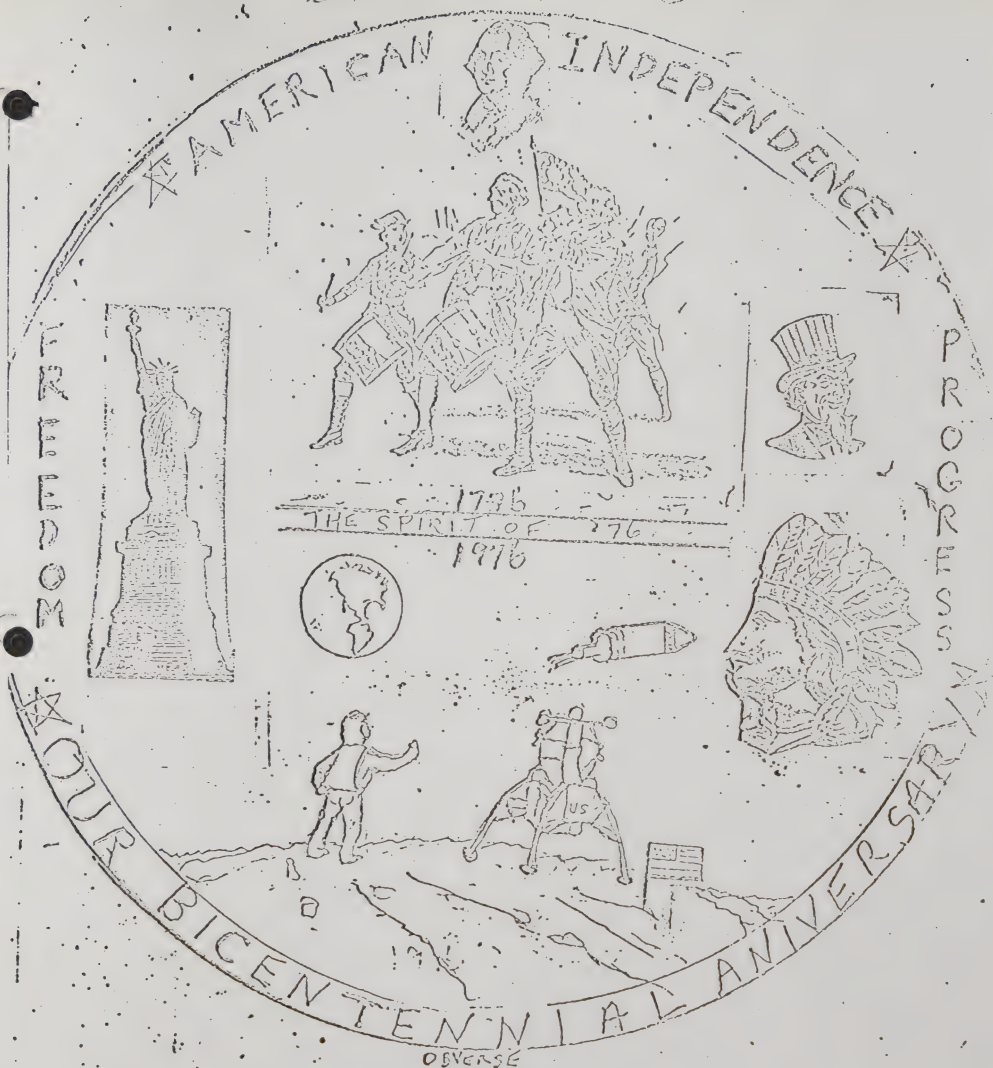
Please let me know what you think of the design and what are the possibilities of the U. S. Mint using it for a bronze medal, if not a silver commemorative dollar.

Let me have your comments and if you cannot use it please return the sketch.

Thank you for any consideration you may give this matter.

Sincerely,

  
J. A. Naser



REVERSE



February 4, 1970 -

encl

BICENTENNIAL  
COMMISSION

President Richard M. Nixon  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President,

You have within your power to make the 1976 Bicentennial Birthday of United States a most memorable one. The machinery for making one phase of this historic event an outstanding one can be set in motion now by you. I am thinking of a special coinage issue for that year that would rekindle in the memory of America, events and men who made this nation great. The special coinage would be issued in honor of past events and personalities. Future generations of Americans would have the coins to remind them of this nation's heroes. You could appoint a commission now to plan for this event. In considering this special issue, the commission would have to consider the following:

1. What personalities will be placed on the coins?
2. Shall there be a special issue of paper currency at the same time?
3. What events shall be portrayed on the coins?
4. What metal shall the coins be struck in? Gold?, Silver?
5. What about proof coinage?
6. How many special proof coins shall be struck? 1¢, 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, 50¢, \$1.00, Gold Coins in various denominations?

Mr. President, I do not represent any group or vested interest. I do collect American coins and I feel that our coinage tells our history most vividly. The Bicentennial year of 1976 would present an excellent opportunity to make American history more vivid to millions of Americans and to people in nations all over the world. The Canadian Centennial coinage of 1967 is an excellent example of a special issue of coins that was sought eagerly by persons all over the world and that portrayed Canadian history.

If I can ever be of further service to you regarding this issue of special coins, I will be most proud to offer my services. I am an American who is proud of his country and its rich history and who will do anything he can to pass on this rich heritage.

Sincerely,



Samuel Berenbaum

8/13

Dear Sir:

Since we did not have a commemorative coin( 50 cents piece or silver dollar) for the moon landing, I feel the United States Government should issue a coin commemorating our 200th anniversary.

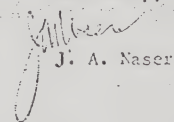
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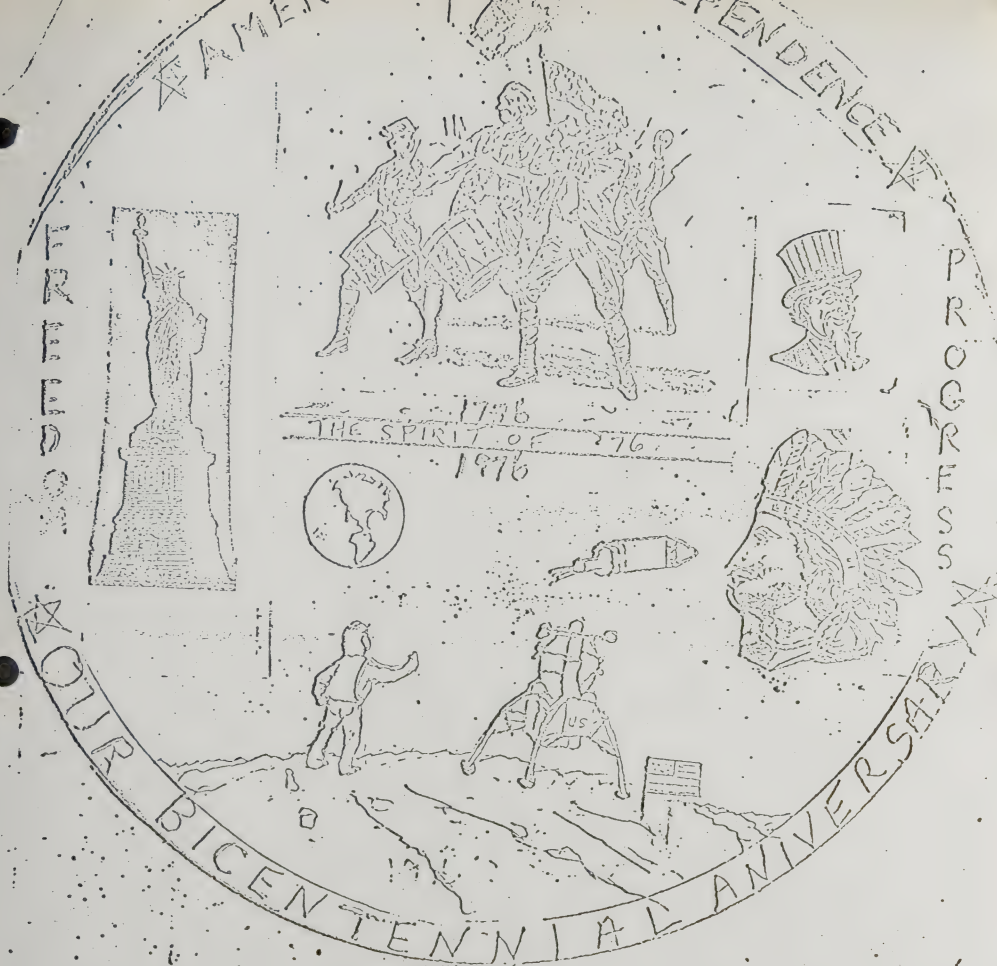
Let me have your comments and if you cannot use it please return the sketch.

Thank you for any consideration you may give this matter.

Sincerely,

  
J. A. Naser





REVERSE



FEB 6 9 59 AM '70

3 February 1970

American Revolution Bicentennial Commission  
Suite 319  
811 Vermont Avenue  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Sir:

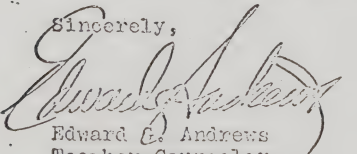
As the nation approaches 1976 and the two hundredth anniversary of the American Revolution, I am sure some plans are in the shapping for that year of celebration.

I am particularly interested in either a commemorative coin or a commemorative set of coins to mark the occasion. Similar to those produced for the Canadian Centennial in 1967, which I am sure you are familiar with.

Would it be possible to learn of your activities and what plans are now being considered for 1976? I am very much interested in the entire project and in your directions.

Thanks for your assistance and information.

Sincerely,



Edward G. Andrews  
Teacher-Counselor  
Los Angeles High School.

Feb 3, 1970

Dear Mr. President,

As we approach the 200<sup>th</sup> year of our independence many individuals and groups are putting forth their ideas to commemorate the event as well as subsequent events of importance.

Here and abroad the Kennedy half dollar is treasured as a commemorative even though it was not intended as such. Issuance of commemorative halves is suggested and seems to be a sound idea.

Many people other than coin collectors, jewelry buyers, etc. will buy these coins. The San Francisco Mint has an OBM file of more than 3,000,000 proof set buyers which will produce a ready market. I think millions of other people, here and abroad, will want such coins.

I suggest that you urge Congress to enact legislation authorizing issuance of commemorative coins.

I suggest that H.E.W. research and be given authority to decide which events are to be honored. H.E.W. should produce a brochure for each coin.

All proceeds, above actual cost, to go to education.

If you agree that this proposal has merit, will you support it?

Respectfully yours,  
Robert F. Kennedy

3165 Mountview Rd.  
Columbus, Ohio 432  
May 12, 1969

The American Revolution Bicentennial Commission  
Suite 319, Lafayette Building  
811 Vermont Avenue, NW  
Washington, D. C. 20242

Gentlemen:

I am sure you have had several recommendations for coins, etc., for the upcoming Bicentennial, and I would like to add mine to the list.

- (1) Our proof sets of 1976 should contain the same degree of silver in the dime, quarter, and half dollar as they had prior to clad coinage.
- (2) We should have a commemorative Silver Dollar with 0.900 fine silver and the following design: the obverse to show the Drummer Boy, the Fife, and the Flags, as depicted by the Spirit of '76. The above to be on a pedestal, with the inscription Spirit of '76 on the pedestal. The top of the Silver Dollar to be inscribed with the motto "In God We Trust" and the date 1776 on the left and 1976 on the right above the Spirit of '76. The lower rim to say Bicentennial One Dollar. The reverse should be the same as the Morgan Dollar with the lower rim saying Bicentennial One Dollar. This coin should sell for at least \$10, depending on the price of silver at that time. Orders should start to be taken through the Assay Office as proof sets are now handled on July 1, 1975, with a cutoff date of November 1, 1975, or whatever the Director of the Mint deems necessary in order to determine manufacturing time. A limit of five (5) per order with no duplicate orders. These should be in proof and should come in a presentation case with a short history and the most historical dates and writings put in a booklet as deemed by the commission.
- (3) We should also have a Gold Commemorative coin. This could be any denomination the commission might designate, but personally, I would like to see a \$20.00 or \$50.00 Dollar Commemorative. Once again the price would be dependent upon the current price of gold. This too should be put in a presentation case, with the historical background of the country, plus the history of gold. As for design, I believe the St. Gaudens obverse with the dates 1776-1976 to the right of the coin with the word Bicentennial at the lower rim, would be a beautiful coin. The reverse should remain the same as the present St. Gaudens with only the value inscribed at the lower rim.

Whatever is going to be done during the celebration of our Bicentennial coinwise, I feel we should start on it now and get something going. Maybe we should have a national contest for coin design for the Commemorative Silver Dollar and Gold Piece. In the way we did this we could interest more people in becoming part of the celebration as well as enlisting the aid of school children and letting them be a part of our past two hundred years and what it has meant to all of us.

Sincerely, yours,

  
Richard E. Stent

enc 1

Stamps, Pensacola  
23 April 1969

Dear Sir

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I sent to the Director of the Mint. Among other things it contains my ideas for coins and medals to be made for the 1976 event. The plan to obtain some of the metal is contained therein also.

Please consider some of my ideas.

SFC John F. Halen  
809 Mira Vista Dr. S. E.  
Huntsville, Ala, 35892

J. F. & E. L. KEELER  
609 Mira Vista Dr. S. E.  
Huntsville, Alabama 35892

Pat  
Pls acknowledge

16 March 1969

Dear Miss Adams,

I wish to express my thanks for the courteous replies I have received to my past letters. In particular I was exceptionally pleased to see the Mint marks appear on the obverse of the coins as I had recommended in one letter.

Now has come the time when I must again put my two cents worth in the current coin and silver problems. I will start with the first suggestion which will have a direct bearing on the other two subjects I wish to dwell upon.

1. Silver stockpile: Authorize all banks under the Federal Reserve system to collect all those piles of silver coins the population is hoarding. Pay ten percent over face value and allow the banks to keep one percent for their extra workload. The Treasury will then melt this hoard and store it for future use which brings me to subject number 2.

2. During the next six years have a contest with cash prizes for the best designs for our coins of 1976 which should be special as the Canadians did in 1967. These coins, and there must be included a one dollar size should depict the most famous historical events in our last 200 years. If the number of historical events exist and I am sure they do then the coin set can be of 12 pieces, one of each of the denominations that have existed, as follows; 1 cent, 1 cent, 2 cent, 3 cent, 5 cent, 10, 20, 25, 50, 1.00 plus a medal to indicate the significance of the set, 200 years. Each coin could be of the type of metal first used in the originals. I do not know if these coins should be restricted to mint sets or produced also for general circulation. The set could be made also in proof so as to continue our line of proofs for collectors.

Since the Mint admitted making a 9 million dollar profit on the 68 proof sets then it should be noted that the coins suggested above would bring in a tremendous revenue from

( all over the world as these sets due to their special design, amount and significance would be sought by everyone just as the Kennedy Half Dollar still is. Your new mint plus the others will be able to handle this worklo d.

The medal to be included in the 12 piece set could show the first event of 1776 and whatever space travel event is in progress in 1976.

I am a very serious collector but I must make a humorous remark now. if this letter has not hit the file 13 by now I will go on to subject number three.

3. I believe the mint is wasting money producing half dollarsthat contain silver and are being erroneously hoarded by persons with the mistaken belief that silver will rise. I have a chart that shows a current half dollar would be worth \$1.8g in silver if the price of silver ever gets to \$3.50 and then the cost of melting should be considered also. Referring back to the first suggestion of buying the silver coins at 10 % over face I must point out that if it is used in the 1976 sets the profit on the s to will more than return the 10 % originally paid out. The buying of this silver for treasury stock should also keep the price of silver down to its present level which is at a low currently.

To return to the half dollar situation I would like to suggest continuation of the Kennedy half but make it in Copper-Nickel. A commemorative half should be resumed with a different design each year as a collectors item at 75¢ each, this would cover postage and handling. To offset this extra workload you could discontinue the year sets as they are not of quality. One can assemble better sets from standard US rolls of coins. The commemorative half can be of famous American or a whole series, one from each year of the space efforts and accomplish ments. One can at this point put a P mint mark on them.

In closing I would as in like to point out the profit potential on all these ideas as the other countries are doing

it, especially the Germans getting double face value plus postage and handling on their commemorative five mark pieces and the mintage is running 3 to 4 million on each issue.

Also to be mentioned are the UN FAO coins being produced by various countries and host countries where the Olympics were held made special coins. Neither of these have been done by the United States. If adopted the first commemorative half could be for the FAO subject as we sell a lot of surplus food products to many countries.

I would like to see the dollar denomination coin resumed with a form of Miss Liberty on it such as the Walking Liberty or the statue standing in New York harbor.

Just one more item, set up a central numismatic office in Chicago or St. Louis due to their locations for mailing purposes to handle distribution of all future mint issues. A central location for assembly of sets would perhaps be better when the items have to come from all three mint locations.

Thank you for your patience in reading this letter.

Sincerely

*John F. Keeler*  
SFC JOHN F. KEELER, US Army  
809 Mira Vista Dr. S.E.  
Huntsville, Ala. 35892

Corpus Christi, Texas  
April 15, 1969

American Revolution Bicentennial Commission  
Suite 319,  
Lafayette Building  
811 Vermont Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20242

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed you will find a zeroxed copy of a petition of over 1,000 names which I have sent to Miss Eva Adams today. The petition respectfully urges that a set of commemorative coins be issued by the United States Mint to mark the Bicentennial of our Independence. As you look over the names you may find some familiar to you. I sent pages to the leaders of our hobby, to give my request added dignity and meaning. Other names came from coin and civic clubs and school children that I have talked to about coins, as well as names signed at coin shows I attended.

We are hoping that you will give serious consideration to this request. The numismatists of America have no lobby in Washington. With this petition we are putting before you something that means a great deal to all of us. In 1876 a medal was struck for the Centennial of our Independence. While it is a beautiful memento, it was enjoyed by a comparatively few. We are asking for a coin series such as Canada issued in 1967, and that these coins be struck in such quantities that every school child in America might well own them. With the tremendous potential of the new mint at Philadelphia this would be possible. The packaged Mint and Proof Sets in more limited quantities should keep the coin collection buffs happy.

I am sending this to you as an individual competitor of the American Numismatic Association's National Coin Week effort for 1969. As such I am promoting numismatics by exhibiting, talking to coin and civic clubs, and to school children. I found this last group intensely interested in the petition and they have figured up how old they will be in 1976. This petition is the "Special" effort of my competition. Will you give it your serious consideration? I would appreciate so very much hearing your opinion.

Respectfully,

*Gladys Robbins*  
Gladys Robbins

Encl: Petition

A COMPETITION FOR SCULPTORS TO CREATE DESIGNS  
FOR A BICENTENNIAL MEDAL FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

\*\*\*

This competition is in accordance with a Resolution concerning the Striking of a Commemorative Medal adopted by the California Bicentennial Celebration Commission on July 23, 1968.

The following are the rules and specifications of the competition:

1. Five sculptors have been selected, namely:

Mr. Spero Anargyros, 2503 Clay Street, San Francisco, California  
Mr. Albert Wein, 5450 Encino Avenue, Encino, California  
Mr. Renzo Penci, 3206 Deronda Drive, Los Angeles, California  
Mr. John Svenson, 5444 Palo Verde, Montclair, California  
Mr. Tom Van Sant, 5698 Tryon Road, Los Angeles, California

2. All sketches must be submitted to the Executive Director's office by September 27, 1968. Mr. Kent B. Williams, Executive Director, California Bicentennial Commission, 1801 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles, California 90067.

3. Each sculptor is asked to submit sketches for the obverse and reverse of a proposed medal to commemorate the Bicentennial of the State of California. The sculptor may submit as many sketches as he desires, clearly labeling each as to whether it is to be considered an obverse or reverse design. It is recommended that these sketches be submitted in pencil, charcoal, or other such medium.

4. These sketches should bear no identifying marks other than a code symbol. This code is to be placed on the outside of a plain sealed envelope with the artist's name contained therein, and is also to be securely attached to the back of the sketch.

5. General Designs and Suggestions. It is the Commission's desire to impose as little restriction as possible on the artist. The following suggestions are made only for guidance purposes. The wording "California Bicentennial" and the two dates "1769-1969" should appear on the obverse of the medallion.

It has been suggested that the seal of the State of California perhaps be considered as a reverse for the medallion, although the seal might be a small part of the overall design. The design should be representational of the history, the assets and the future hopes of our great state. You are all familiar with the historical background of the founding of our state, its industrial and agricultural program. The designs should be easily interpreted for it is the intention of the Commission to sell this medal throughout the state to the man on the street.

A COMPETITION FOR SCULPTORS TO CREATE DESIGNS  
FOR A BICENTENNIAL MEDAL FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

6. The selected sketches shall become the property of the Bicentennial Commission and the artist will agree to furnish models in accordance with the specifications outlined in paragraph 7. The sculptor's models to be finished by November 1, 1968. These models will be copyrighted by the Medallic Art Company of New York City.
7. Specifications:
- (a) The author of the winning design will be required to furnish two sets of plaster models, one for the 2-1/2" diameter medal and one for the coin size medal, suitable for reduction and die cutting. The models should consist of clean, white, untreated plaster casts; one for each side of the medal and one for each side of the "coin."
  - (b) There should be no undercuts in the plaster casts, nor any vertical returns from high areas to low areas, as these should have a bevel of at least 15°. The plaster models should be complete including all necessary inscriptions.
  - (c) For the 2-1/2" diameter medal, the models should be made 11" in diameter and the sculptor's relief should be confined to 1/2" elevation above the general background and surface of the medal. This dimension is meant to indicate one or a few high points in the design and large areas of the design should not be elevated to this dimension.
  - (d) For the coin, two discs of plaster, approximately 9" in diameter, with a slight dish shape to them, would be furnished to the sculptor, and the modeling work would have to be confined within the limits of 1/8" total relief; again, not to be used over large areas, but only as an upper limit.
  - (e) A compensation of \$150.00 shall be paid to each of the five above artists submitting sketches for the design of the medals. The sculptor of the winning design shall receive in addition to the compensation of \$150.00, the sum of \$1850.00 as a purchase prize for the models except as set forth in paragraph (f).
  - (f) It is recognized that the production of models in extremely low relief for the coin-like item is of special difficulty. If the winning designer does not feel capable of working within the rigid limitations of this process, the Commission could arrange for his design to be carefully copied by a competent coin modeler, and the sum of \$500 would be deducted from the prize money to allow for this separate purchase.

A COMPETITION FOR SCULPTORS TO CREATE DESIGNS  
FOR A BICENTENNIAL MEDAL FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

7. Specifications (continued)

(g) The winning designer will be able to obtain additional or more detailed information from the manufacturer of the medals, if necessary, if he should be prepared to furnish one or both sets of the above medals.

8. Judging will take place and the winners announced approximately OCTOBER 1, 1968. The judges will be:

Mrs. Otis Chandler  
Mr. Richard Fourade  
Reverend Noel F. Moholy  
Mr. Robert Stanton

The technical consultant will be:

Mr. William Louth, President  
Medallic Art Company  
325 East 45th Street  
New York 10017

9. If further information is required, please contact Mr. Robert Stanton, P.O. Box 2177, Carmel, California; telephone 408 624 3861.

Enclosures for guidance:  
Brochure "Home of the Art Medal"  
Article "Modeling for a Medal"

COINS BE ISSUED BY THE UNITED STATES MINT TO MARK THE BICENTENNIAL OF OUR INDEPENDENCE  
the coins could be a source of governmental revenue; a prestige item among the other coins of the  
world (most countries these days have current commemoratives); even a propaganda message to the rest of  
the world, but most of all a means of uplifting the spirit of the American people. If the coins could be  
designed on a competitive basis, new art and a fresh approach might well be the result.

M. John Davis, Chula Vista, California  
Guthrie Family Corpus Christi Museum  
Dora Cronens Corpus Christi Museum  
Heddy Robbins  
Betty Flunk  
Walter R. Miller - "Emphasis" on people & ideas  
Myra H. Ramsey  
Lena Long  
H. E. Long  
Rozanne Beard  
Kenneth Hauke -  
Marwin Bennett - Pres. Beeville Coin Club  
Marge Clardy - Vice President  
Ola Conner  
William Edward Hamilton III  
Earl L. Johnson - Beeville Coin Club  
Tony Johnson  
Tommy Pelt

April 8, 1969

Mr. Bud Wilkinson  
c/o The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I am fourteen years old and am an avid coin collector. I have read that President Nixon has appointed you to be in charge of preparing the nation's bicentennial celebration in 1976. [I am sure you are aware of the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission which is presently planning activities for the bicentennial.] I would very much like to see some commemoration of our country's independence on U.S. coinage in 1976. Therefore, I urge you to recommend the issuance of a set of specially designed coins in 1976 including cent, nickel, dime, quarter and half dollar, and if possible, a nickel dollar. If this is not possible, or even in addition to the above, I would propose the inclusion of these special coins into that year's Proof and Mint Sets that are sold to coin collectors. I might note that Canada undertook both of these projects very successfully in celebration of their centennial in 1967.

As for the designs on the coins, I would suggest pictures of Miss Liberty, the Liberty Bell, an eagle, Independence Hall, or other symbols of freedom and liberty.

Very truly yours,

*Robert Lederer*

Robert Lederer

jcl

GODFREY HARRIS  
CHAIRMAN

April 2, 1969

R. Lynn Carroll  
American Revolution Bicentennial Commission  
811 Vermont Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20242

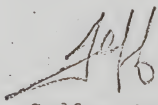
Dear Lynn:

Further to our conversation of Monday, the 24th, I have enclosed a brief U.P.I. article which appeared in the March 31 Los Angeles Herald Examiner.

I still believe it would be fitting to recommend that a likeness of General Eisenhower appear on the obverse of a proposed \$2 silver piece.

My contention is that a \$2 coin struck as legal tender in commemoration of the Bicentennial will be a wonderful innovation, but a tough sell to Treasury. General Eisenhower's profile, however, might make the concept plausible.

All the best,

  
Godfrey Harris

GH/dj  
Enc.

TOWN OF CONCORD

TOWN HOUSE

CONCORD, MASSACHUSETTS 01742

SELECTMEN

FRANCIS S. MOULTON, JR.

CHAIRMAN

RICHARD J. LOUGHLIN

CLERK

W. SEYMOUR ARCHIBALD, JR.

JOHN C. COLLINS

WILLIAM D. LOCKE

TOWN MANAGER

PAUL J. FLYNN

OLD NORTH BRIDGE

March 19, 1969

Mr. Richard Barrett, Executive Secretary  
President's Bicentennial Commission  
319 Lafayette Building  
Vermont & H Streets  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Barrett:

At a recent meeting of the Town of Concord's 1975 Celebrations Committee, the subject of the issuance of commemorative stamps, coins, and medals was discussed.

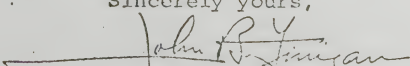
It was the decision of the Committee not to pursue the issuance of commemorative coin (s) at this time. The feeling was expressed, however, that if it should be the decision of the Bicentennial Commission to proceed with this matter, the Concord Committee stands ready to provide whatever cooperation the Commission thinks appropriate.

On the other hand, the Committee is going to examine very carefully the several aspects relating to the issuance of stamps and medals. The design, size, type of metal, etc., for commemorative medals will be studied in the hope that a workable program can be developed.

To avoid overlapping and duplication of effort, we plan to keep your office informed of our plans and hope that insofar as practicable the reverse will be true.

Some of the most handsome commemorative coins and stamps ever issued in the world have been made by this country. We have enclosed for your personal possession a commemorative half dollar and a set of three (3) uncanceled stamps that were issued to observe the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Concord and Lexington in 1925.

Sincerely yours,

  
John B. Finigan, Chairman  
Town of Concord  
1975 Celebration Committee

JBF:ed

Encl.

CC: Bruce Old  
John Eaton  
Theodore Nelson

Dec.  
MAY 23, 1968

The American Revolution Bicentennial Commission  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

I am fourteen years old and am an avid coin collector. I would very much like to see some commemoration of our country's independence on U. S. coinage in 1976. Therefore, I urge you to recommend the issuance of a set of specially designed coins in 1976 including cent, nickel, dime, quarter and half dollar, and if possible, a nickel dollar. If this is not possible, or even in addition to the above, I would propose the inclusion of these special coins into that year's Proof and Mint Sets that are sold to coin collectors. I might note that Canada undertook both of these projects very successfully in celebration of their centennial last year.

As for the designs on the coins, I would suggest pictures of Miss Liberty, the Liberty Bell, an eagle, Independence Hall, or other symbols of freedom and liberty.

Very truly yours,

9148 W. 93rd St.  
Hickory Hills, Ill.  
60457

November 18th 1968

American Revolution Bi-Centennial  
Commission  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen;

At this initial writing, I am in the process of completing the preliminary steps in a forth coming series of the revolution. Titled; "The Battles of the American Revolution". This is to be a set of limited quantity (10,000) 20x 24 color lithographs.

This set will consist of 54 prints each representing a battle in the American revolution. As you may well know, there is little now available in the graphic end of this period. The research on the series is and will be quite extensive with much detail to the correctness of Artifacts of the period, including particular detail to the typography as well.

We are writing Europe as well as Domestic sources for such information as is required on each print. There will be of course, text to accompany each print. The set will be issued about six per year, mailed twice a year. It will include a durable and attractive folio to house the entire collection.

This set will be sold by subscription only, to those who would be deemed most interested as only the 10,000 would be participating. We had thought along with the few groups so far interested, that you would be able to furnish us with a more extensive mailing list. We would like to send on an advance of the first plate, namely the Battle of Lexington as soon as it becomes available. We of course would appreciate any and all co-operation you can give us in our venture.

I have one title which is: COLLECTORS HANDBOOK ON GERMAN MILITARY REMICS (Nazi Regime) though now out of print, it can be reviewed at your request, with comment by Norman Fleydeman (Whots who) of Historical importance on expertise. It is the only work of its kind and will give you some idea of my efforts in the field if required.

Very truly yours,

*Robert C. Gramberg*  
Robert C. Gramberg

DAVID DALLY  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
VIRGINIA HEYERDAHL  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
PAULA YATES  
SECRETARY  
RONIA STRUCK  
SECRETARY  
DONNIE NELSON  
SECRETARY

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

50 FORT  
SPRINGFIELD, A  
FRANK FET  
EXECUTIVE AD  
CATHY FET  
SECRET

24 September 1968

9/26  
RL

Honorable Carlisle H. Humelsine  
Chairman  
American Revolution Bicentennial Commission  
c/o Williamsburg, Inc.  
Williamsburg, Virginia

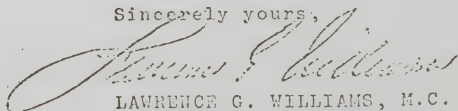
Dear Mr. Humelsine:

I am in receipt of a letter from a constituent of mine, Mr. Garry W. Burgard, who has a very worthwhile proposal in connection with the celebration of our Nation's bicentennial. He has suggested that the Treasury Department produce a series of commemorative coins for the occasion. I have been informed by Miss Eva Adams, Director of the Mint, that the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission will give special consideration to coins, medals and stamps.

Since I understand that the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, of which you are Chairman, is scheduled to meet during the month of October, I am taking the liberty of bringing Mr. Burgard's suggestion to your attention at this time, in hopes that you will find the time to discuss the merits of his suggestion at your October meeting. Enclosed is a copy of his correspondence to me. I would appreciate it if you could inform me of any action the Commission might take on this suggestion.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

  
LAWRENCE G. WILLIAMS, M.C.

LGW:vah

CC: Honorable John Saylor  
Mr. Garry Burgard

  
*Garry W. Bergard*

CAROLYN COURT APTS.

APT. C-2

PROSPECT PARK, PA. 19076

September 7, 1968

The Honorable Lawrence G. Williams  
50 Powell Road  
Springfield, Pa. 19064

Dear Congressman Williams:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for adding my name to your mailing list. I very much appreciate receiving your personal newsletter. I enjoy this opportunity to keep up with the congressional news.

I would further like to present you with an idea. ~~1976 will be celebrating its bicentennial.~~  
Do you think it would be fitting for the Treasury Department to produce a series of commemorative coins on this occasion? The set could consist of eighteen coins, each at a producing not only the regular circulating denominations, but also a special dollar.

~~The sets could be produced similar to our present proofs and distributed in a similar manner.~~  
The sets could be produced similar to our present proofs and distributed in a similar manner. The cost might be around ten dollars, depending upon the composition of the coins.

I am particularly interested in such a set because I am a numismatist. However, I feel that it would be more than fitting to produce such a set since only last year Canada produced the same.

I would be very interested in hearing your comments and thoughts on this matter. Also I would like to ask your assistance in bringing this idea to



*Garry W. Burgard*

CAROLYN COURT APTS.

APT. C-2

PROSPECT PARK, PA. 19376

-2-

the attention of other fellow congressmen. I would like to see a bill for such a set initiated and followed through until such could be produced.

I hope you do not feel this idea is suggested too far in advance, but now is the time to act on this, as it takes time for a bill to be acted upon as well as time for the dies to be produced.

I will be looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

*Garry W. Burgard*  
Garry W. Burgard

DONALD E. "BOB" LUKENS  
24th DISTRICT, OHIO

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
101 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
AREA CODE 202-225-6255

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:  
JOHN E. SCHROTE

COMMITTEE:  
SCIENCE AND ASTRONAUTICS

5/21

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

May 29, 1968

DISTRICT OFFICE  
312 REISCHLER BUILDING  
HAMILTON, OHIO 43111  
AREA CODE 513-241-3111

212 PICKAWAY BUILDING  
MIDDLEBURY, OHIO 43212  
AREA CODE 913-413-6111

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE:  
MORRIS "TURK" TURKELSON

CONGRESS:  
WARREN, PETER, FRANK  
MONTGOMERY (FBI)

Mr. Carlisle Humesline  
President, Colonial Williamsburg  
Williamsburg, Virginia

Dear Mr. Humesline:

A constituent of mine, Mr. Donald  
M. DeMoss, has written me with a suggestion  
concerning our 200th anniversary.

Mr. DeMoss has suggested that we  
commemorate the bicentennial on our coins  
by using the White House, American Flag or  
the Constitution in some way on them.

Any consideration that you or the  
commission can give this suggestion will be  
sincerely appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
Donald E. Lukens

DEL/rs

cc: Mr. Donald M. DeMoss  
944 Magie Avenue  
Fairfield, Ohio 45014

HARROL A. BRAUER, JR.  
35 NORTH BONWOOD STREET  
HAMPTON, VIRGINIA 23369

September 5, 1967

Mr. Carlisle H. Humelsine, President  
Colonial Williamsburg  
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

Dear Mr. Humelsine:

Thank you for your letter of August 28, 1967 relative to a suggestion of mine that consideration be given to the minting of a commemorative coin for the American Revolution bi-centennial observance.

I hope you do not think it presumptuous of me to attach a copy of "A Guidebook of United States Coins." On page 189 and for subsequent pages following, there are pictures of all commemorative silver coins minted by the United States, plus brief synopses of their origin. Please observe, particularly, the "Lafayette Dollar" (listed on page 190. This one more nearly exemplifies a similarity to the forthcoming celebration, and I believe it to be the only such piece issued in the one-dollar denomination.

A great occasion such as the anticipated bi-centennial deserves nothing less than this type of recognition, in my opinion.

If, in the course of planning, I can be of assistance in any way my time, energies and ability will permit, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Sincerely,

*Harrol A. Brauer, Jr.*  
Harrol A. Brauer, Jr.

HAB:kdm

Dear Sirs:

I am enclosing a design for a coin which I think you might be interested. It is my idea of the design for the 1976 Bicentennial Commemorative Cent. The design, of course, is not totally mine. The eagle on the obverse is from the Flying Eagle Cent. The wheat ears on the reverse are from the old Lincoln cent reverse. Other than that, however, I think the design is original.

In my opinion, these coins should be struck at the Philadelphia Mint in a quantity of about three or four billion. None should be made at Denver and only a limited issue for proof sets should be struck with the "S" mintmark (Below the date).

I think the cent would be ideal for the celebration of the bicentennial of our freedom because this is the most common coin. After a day's work, the business man has a pocketful of pennies. Why not make this a constant reminder to our freedom? The cent would not be hoarded, as a high denomination coin would be, because of the high quantity minted.

I hope you will seriously consider any or all parts of the design of the coin, and my ideas as listed above.

Sincerely yours,  
Officer Balliet



OBVERSE



REVERSE

1976

BICENTENNIAL CENT



FEB 12 10 21 AM '70

enc 2

THE FRANKLIN MINT

YEADON, PENNSYLVANIA U.S.A.

February 10, 1970

Mr. Hugh Hall  
Deputy Executive Director  
American Revolution Bicentennial Commission  
Lafayette Building, Suite 319  
811 Vermont Avenue, N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20242

Dear Mr. Hall:

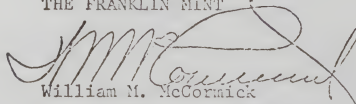
Thank you for the time and attention which you, Mr. Williams,  
and Mr. Morrison gave me yesterday.

I enclose three "samples" which I hope you three will accept  
with my compliments. The other enclosures are self-explanatory.

Please let me know when I should be available for a pro-  
posal and presentation.

Sincerely yours,

THE FRANKLIN MINT



William M. McCormick  
Rear Admiral, USN (Ret.)  
International Representative

WMMcC:kms

cc: Mr. John J. Slocum  
Special Assistant for  
Bicentennial Planning  
Smithsonian Institution  
Washington, D. C. 20560

Enclosures: Annual Report 1968

Catalog  
Fact Sheet  
3 Groundbreaking coins (under separate cover)



1600-FOXHILL ROAD, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20007  
(202) 338-3717  
CABLE: EDMOSS

FEB 16 9 56 AM '70

February 12, 1970

Dear Kent:

I enjoyed very much the opportunity to talk about the Bicentennial possibilities for centennial coins and what Paramount International Coin Corporation might do to be of assistance.

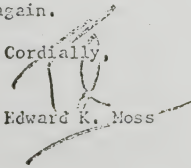
You have, of course, Paramount's proposal which we talked about. But above all I would like to state again that Paramount, as the largest and most experienced firm in numismatic distribution here and around the world, would like to be regarded as a resource to which the Commission would turn for advice and discussion when the time comes as to how best meet the objectives of the Commission and as to what Paramount might do to be of service along the lines of earlier written proposals and our discussion at lunch yesterday.

If the Commission does not find the company's proposal consistent with policy it elects, the company nevertheless has the knowledge and the outlets and the promotional skill and the financing for whatever program best suits your needs.

I'll be in touch with you after you've had your February 26th meeting and perhaps then would be the time for some of the experts at Paramount to sit down and discuss the needs of the Commission in the light of deliberations which will have been made -- at least partially by that time.

I look forward to seeing you again.

Cordially,

  
Edward K. Moss

Mr. Kent Williams  
Special Assistant to the  
Deputy Executive Director  
American Revolution  
Bicentennial Commission  
811 Vermont Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20242

FEB 12 10 21 AM '70

Enc 2

THE FRANKLIN MINT

YEADON, PENNSYLVANIA U.S.A.

February 10, 1970

Mr. Hugh Hall  
Deputy Executive Director  
American Revolution Bicentennial Commission  
Lafayette Building, Suite 319  
811 Vermont Avenue, N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20242

Dear Mr. Hall:

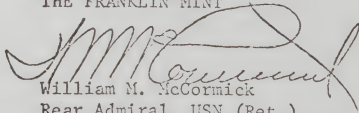
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I enclose three "samples" which I hope you three will accept with my compliments. The other enclosures are self-explanatory.

Please let me know when I should be available for a proposal and presentation.

Sincerely yours,

THE FRANKLIN MINT

  
William M. McCormick  
Rear Admiral, USN (Ret.)  
International Representative

WMMcC:kms

cc: Mr. John J. Slocum  
Special Assistant for  
Bicentennial Planning  
Smithsonian Institution  
Washington, D. C. 20560

Enclosures: Annual Report 1968

Catalog

Fact Sheet

3 Groundbreaking coins (under separate cover)



THE FRANKLIN MINT

## FACT SHEET

December 1, 1969

PROFILE: THE FRANKLIN MINT

Background -- The Franklin Mint, an investor-owned company, founded in July, 1964, by Joseph M. Segel, is the largest private mint in the world. In five short years, The Franklin Mint has grown from a small company with a handful of employees to a large organization with more than 1000 employees. The Company's dramatic success is the result of its world-wide reputation for creativity, excellence and integrity.

Since being founded, The Franklin Mint has designed and minted hundreds of new commemorative issues, stimulated the interest of the general public in privately issued commemoratives, opened a new market in medallic art for scores of designers and sculptors and pioneered significant advances in minting technology.

Primary Business -- The Franklin Mint specializes in the design and production of commercial and collector series of coins, tokens and commemorative medals in precious and non-precious metals. Its output ranges from limited edition specimens in solid platinum and sterling silver to runs of millions of pieces in aluminum and bronze.

Other products include non-monetary coins for promotional use and special private issues to commemorate events and anniversaries.

The Franklin Mint recently began minting monetary coins for foreign governments. The first two countries are the Republic of Tunisia and the Republic of Panama.

Facilities and Equipment -- Current operations are spread out among 15 buildings and plants in Yeadon, Folcroft and Darby, Delaware County, Pennsylvania. The executive offices and main plant are in Yeadon. A new 180,000-square-foot office and plant is being built on U. S. Route 1, southwest of Media, Pennsylvania, to consolidate all domestic operations. The facility will be completed late in 1969.

The Franklin Mint now has 24 automatic-feed coining presses and seven proof-coining presses, the latter group in a unique "clean-room" environment. Most departments are operating two shifts. The Franklin Mint's production capacity is 20,000,000 coins, tokens and medals per week, considerably greater than most foreign government mints.

Security -- The Franklin Mint has an exceptional security system, designed particularly for its special requirements. It was one of the first mints in the world to install closed-circuit television for continuous surveillance. In addition, it has numerous other security devices in operation, including certain deterrents built into high-value coins to prevent counterfeiting. It maintains a 50-man private security force and a highly qualified security staff. Its records are thoroughly audited by the highly regarded accounting firm of Price Waterhouse & Co.

Capital -- As of September 30, 1969, the net worth of The Franklin Mint was \$6,600,000. Total assets exceed \$19,600,000.

There are about 3500 shareholders, representing all of the states in the Union. The Company's common stock is traded on the American Stock Exchange.

Sales and Earnings -- Sales for 1968 were \$10,258,000, compared with \$2,672,000 in 1967. Earnings for 1968 were \$630,000, or \$.50 per share, compared with \$136,000, or \$.13 per share earned in 1967.

Sales for the first nine months of 1969 were \$20,588,000, compared with \$6,000,000 during the same period of 1968. Earnings for the period were \$1,379,000, or \$.92 per share, compared with earnings of \$409,000, or \$.34 per share in the comparable period of 1968. (All per share figures have been adjusted for two-for-one stock splits distributed in the form of 100% stock dividends on December 16, 1968, and August 1, 1969.)

What The Franklin Mint Produces -- The principal products of The Franklin Mint are non-monetary coins, tokens and commemorative medals made for private collectors in precious and non-precious metals. The Franklin Mint proprietary series for collectors, issued in limited edition, include:

- The Franklin Mint History of the United States
- The Franklin Mint Version of the Thomson Medallion Bible
- The Franklin Mint Treasury of Presidential Commemorative Medals and Presidential Mini-Coins
- The Franklin Mint Treasury of Zodiac Medals
- The Franklin Mint Collection of Antique Car Coins
- The Franklin Mint States of the Union Medals and States of the Union Mini-Coins

The Franklin Mint also mints commemorative medals for nine commemorative societies which are independently owned and operated. They are:

- The National Commemorative Society
- The American Negro Commemorative Society
- The Britannia Commemorative Society
- The Catholic Commemorative Medal Society
- The Judaic Heritage Society
- The International Fraternal Commemorative Society
- Société Commémorative de Femmes Célèbres
- The Medical Heritage Society
- Texas Under Six Flags

Other items produced by the Company include medallion greeting cards and fine art plaques which combine limited edition rarity with beauty and intrinsic value. The Franklin Mint recently began minting "coin of the realm" for the Republic of Panama and the Republic of Tunisia. The annual

Franklin Mint Peace Medal is awarded each year to those who have excelled in promoting world peace.

International Operations -- The Franklin Mint's wholly owned subsidiary, International Minting & Metalarts Corporation, has two subsidiaries: John Pinches (Medallists) Ltd., London, England, and Wellings Mint, Ltd., Toronto, Canada. Wellings is the largest private mint in Canada.

Personnel -- The Franklin Mint now has more than 1000 employees, many of them highly skilled craftsmen who have come from all over the world. The staff includes Gilroy Roberts, former Chief Sculptor-Engraver of the U. S. Mint, who designed and sculptured the portrait side of the famous Kennedy Half Dollar; Rae V. Biester, former Superintendent of the U. S. Mint; Ernest Smith, former Master Tool Department Supervisor of the Royal Mint in London, England; John Wallace, former Production Manager of the Royal Mint; Philip Nathan and Barry Stanton, former sculptor-engravers of the Royal Mint; Patrick Brindley, former Production Engineer of the Sudan Mint; and Rear Admiral William M. McCormick, former Commander, Fleet Air Wings of the U. S. Atlantic Fleet.

Company Executives -- Joseph M. Segel is founder and President of The Franklin Mint. Gilroy Roberts is Chairman of the Board. Other executive officers and directors are:

Norman Klauder, Vice Chairman of the Board  
Martin F. Walsh, Senior Vice President and Director  
Brian G. Harrison, Executive Vice President, Operations, and Director  
Charles L. Andes, Executive Vice President, Marketing, and Director  
Gerald C. Dragonetti, Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary  
Nieson N. Shak, Vice President, Finance  
Harry D. Kimp, Vice President, Management Services  
Francis D. Margulies, Vice President, Marketing Services  
Charles J. Kling, Jr., Treasurer  
Stanley Merves, Assistant Treasurer and Director  
Frederick C. Waldron, Director

JAS. H. MATTHEWS & CO.

MEMORIAL BRONZE DIVISION

1315 WEST LIBERTY AVENUE, PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15220

Area Code 412-561-3456

September 12, 1969

American Revolution  
Bicentennial Commission  
Suite 319-Lafayette Bldg.  
811 Vermont Avenue N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Attention R. Lynn Carroll,  
Assistant Director

Dear Mr. Carroll:

Thank you for your interest in our offer to discuss the activities relating to the Bicentennial.

We are in the process of preparing some material and ideas which we feel could possibly be of assistance to you. With your permission we would like to try to arrange a meeting some time in early November, at which time we could show you samples and ideas and attempt to offer our assistance to you.

Very truly yours,

*George N. Cook, Jr.*  
George N. Cook, Jr.  
Product Manager  
Identification In Metal

GMC:bak

arbo-2  
Enc 2  
AEC  
MLB  
File  
Stamp  
Medallion  
Coins

5/9/69

enc 10



Continental AMERICAN  
productions corporation  
BOX 543 • PALOS HEIGHTS, ILL. 60463

April 7th 1969

Note - This  
is mistake  
the Gray

American Revolution Bicentennial Commission  
811 Vermont St. N.W.  
Washington, D.C.  
20242

Att: Mr. Godfrey Harris

Dear Mr. Harris:

Some months ago I wrote stating that our firm would be sending on to you, the first plate of our series "THE BATTLES OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR". It is now ready for presentation to your commission but I have not had any response from my last letter from you to date.

This may be due to part time offices or perhaps loss of mail. In any case I will be glad to ship the plate to you for evaluation etc., but would do so only at a time when I knew someone would be there to sign for it. Since it will be shipped insured, I am told it will only be held for a five day period before being returned to us.

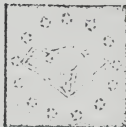
Our staff and associate members are doing a thorough job in researching each plate and we will have plates 2 through 4 by the fall of this year. Then each subsequent year eight per year (Mailed twice, four each time) until the set of fifty-four is completed.

We have contacted many schools in the country and historical societies as well. We would like to secure a listing of public library systems in the country in order to continue our advertising. Should you have information on how we may secure such a listing it would be most appreciated.

Hoping to hear from you as is convenient.

very truly yours,

Robert C. Harris



3/26/67  
order-3  
**Continental AMERICAN**  
productions corporation  
BOX 543 • PALOS HEIGHTS, ILL. 60463

March 23rd 1967

9148 West 93rd Street  
Hickory Hills, Ill. 60457

American Revolution Bi-centennial Commission  
Room #319  
La Fayette Building  
811 Vermont Ave. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20242

Att: Mr. Harris

Dear Mr. Harris;

May I refer you to my last letter of Dec. 29th 1966 at which time I mentioned I was forming a corporation for the purpose of publishing a series of 20 x 24 lithographs (22 x 28 plate size) totaling 54 to the series.

Since that time I have engaged Mr. John Stribrny to paint this series and am enclosing a photo of number #1 "The battle of Lexington" in its final stages. As I promised in the last letter you will be receiving a proof of this plate for reference and display.

It is hoped we will have the first plate finished in about two or three weeks. In the meantime, we are contacting the schools throughout the country with the enclosed copy.

Since we feel this series is important enough to be put into a stream of activity were it can do some good relative to the Bi-centennial and its activity which will give Americans all a renewed pride in our heritage.

Should you have any suggestions at this time which may be of help not only to us but to the general public as we prepare these plates, it would be most appreciated. I shall see to it that the text and plate are sent to you immediately upon their being finished.

Cordially yours,



*Continental* -AMERICAN  
productions corporation  
BOX 543 • PALOS HEIGHTS, ILL. 60463

ATTENTION: COLLECTORS, EDUCATORS, STUDENTS...

Continental American Productions takes pride in bringing you this exciting picture series  
"The Battles of The Revolutionary War."

Share with us the full rich range of vivid and colorful illustrations giving the viewer a seldom seen look at the men whose gallant struggle during America's first dark days brought her to a glorious and lasting victory for independence.

Totalling 54 prints in all and limited to 10,000 numbered sets, they will be especially valued. Beginning with "The Battle of Lexington" (now ready for your collection) and continuing on in groups of four, sent to you twice each year right on thru Yorktown. With each print will be sent a separate sheet describing the scene.

Not simple sketches, but accurately detailed, full color prints measuring 22 x 28 inches plate size. Reproduced from paintings commissioned by Continental and executed by the well known illustrator John Stribny.

No prints will be available except to subscribers with a registry number. Specific requests for a particular number will be honored whenever possible.

The first print "Lexington" will be shipped post paid on receipt of your check or money order for \$2.95. Each succeeding group of four on receipt of \$11.80. Illinois residents must add 5% tax. A 3 x 5 black and white copy of "Lexington" is available upon request.

#### EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS:

This series will show more than men in conflict. It has for American youth a message of the self sacrifice, dedication and determination of their forbearers. As we approach our nation's bi-centennial this collection will serve as a valuable teaching aid, a base from which to develop curriculum in addition to being a valued permanent collection.

A request on a school letterhead will hold a reserve membership for a period of thirty days, allowing for institutional purchasing procedures. Unconfirmed requests will automatically be voided after one month. Individual memberships cannot be extended this privilege and must order directly.

Orders received after the membership reaches 10,000 will be declined and returned to sender with no other obligation on the part of Continental American Productions.

*Robert C. Kramling*

0000  
3/10/69  
me

# NATIONAL SCULPTURE SOCIETY

250 EAST 51st STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

TELEPHONE: 421-7930

March 11, 1969

FRANK ELISCU  
PRESIDENT

RALPH J. MENCONI  
1ST VICE-PRESIDENT

FRANCIS KEALLY  
2ND VICE-PRESIDENT

FRANCES K. TREES  
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Dr. R.L. Carroll  
Suite 319  
811 Vermont Avenue  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Dr. Carroll:

Enclosed are the sculpture competition forms you requested.

I have spoken to Mr. Michael Lantz, Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the Society, who tells me that he is presently working on commissions in Washington and is there frequently. He says that he would be delighted to call on you for consultation on procedures for the medal competition and I am sure that he will be able to answer any questions you may have.

Mr. Lantz's address is 979 Webster Avenue, New Rochelle, NY 10804, and his telephone is: 914-NE 6- 5994.

Sincerely,

*Howard M. Stein*  
Mrs. Howard M. Stein  
Executive Secretary

CAS:ne



## COMPETITIONS FOR SCULPTURE

Suggestions and recommendations relative to competitions for Sculpture and a code governing the conduct of members of the National Sculpture Society taking part therein.

The National Sculpture Society is frequently asked for advice or assistance by Committees or others contemplating holding competitions for work in which sculpture forms an important part. It has prepared the following statement on the subject.

However, this statement must not be construed to mean that the Society recommends competitions as the best method for selecting a sculptor. It simply recognizes that competitions are sometimes necessary and this statement is prepared with the intention of making them more satisfactory to the owner and the competitor.

It is not the purpose to dictate to Committees, but simply to formulate a few rules which long experience and close observation have shown are more likely to produce the best results.

Naturally the first requisite of success is to induce able sculptors to compete. Committees would be less surprised at the indifference shown by such sculptors toward competitions, if they fully realized the expenditure of time and money involved in study and preparation of models.

In order therefore to interest the sculptors in a competition, the administration of the competition and the program governing it become of paramount importance. Hence we present the following recommendations for a Competition Code:

### 1. Definition:

A competition exists when two or more sculptors prepare sketches or models at the same time for the same project.

### 2. Professional Adviser:

A sculptor of good standing and with experience in competitions should be retained as a Professional Adviser, whose duties shall consist in advising the owner, drafting the program, answering anonymous questions of competitors, examining the submitted sketches or models to ascertain that they comply with the program, and in general in assuming all responsibility for the conduct of the competition. All communications must emanate from him.

2A. In certain cases an Architect would be eligible as adviser.

### 3. Program:

A definite program must be drawn by the Professional Adviser, stating — — —

- (a) The title and purpose of the competition.
- (b) The authority and personnel of those holding the competition.
- (c) Cost of Work: The amount which it is proposed to spend on the work should be definitely stated.
- (d) The kind of competition. If open, state whether in one or two stages, with names of invited competitors, if any. If invited, names of competitors.  
Amount of fees to invited competitors, or prizes, if any, with date of payment.
- (e) An Agreement on the part of the Owner to sign a contract with the successful competitor. The terms of which shall comply with best sculptural practice.
- (f) Date and place for receipt of submissions. Time allowed should be ample and not extended except under extraordinary circumstances.
- (g) Details of judgment: Date, Personnel of Jury (should contain at least three members, one of whom must be a qualified Sculptor). Method of Selection of Jury (by appointment or by vote of competitor's), Authority of Jury.
- (h) Provision for elucidation of the program. Questions must be made anonymously to the Professional Adviser, who will answer by simultaneous bulletins to all competitors, and these bulletins shall become part of the program.

(i) Provision for anonymity during progress of the competition. No competitor shall communicate verbally or in writing with the Committee, Jury, or with the Professional Adviser except as in item (h) above.

(j) Provision for anonymity of submissions. Accompanying each submission shall be a plain opaque envelope containing the competitor's name and address. Envelopes and sketches or Models of each submission shall be given identical numbers by the Professional Adviser and remain unopened until the award of the competition.

(k) The number, scale and manner of presentation of sketches or models must be uniform to all competitors. No alternate submissions should be allowed.

(l) Details of site, with survey giving grades, dimensions, location of other surface elements.

(m) Detailed information regarding the subject, its purpose, size and proposed materials.

(n) Provision for notification of award.

(o) Provision for return of submissions and their exhibition if agreed on by all competitors. Submissions are not to be exhibited or made public until after the award.

(p) Provision for penalty of disqualification of any competitor violating any of the above mandatory requirements.

### 4. Requirements Mandatory for the Approval of a Competition Program:

Paragraph 1.

Paragraph 2.

Paragraph 3, items (e), (g), (i), (j), and (p).

### 5. Preliminary Draft of Program:

A preliminary draft of the program to be approved by the National Sculpture Society must be sent to its Committee on Competitions prior to submission to the Owner. The final approval of the Committee on Competitions should be attached to the Program.

### 6. Every member of the National Sculpture Society contemplating entering a competition must notify the secretary of this Society of such competition for review by the Competition Program Committee and must secure their approval before participating. Any member violating this procedure may be subject to suspension of membership or expulsion from the society.



## CONVENTIONS FOR SCULPTURE

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# THE NATIONAL SCULPTURE SOCIETY



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# A COMPETITION

## FOR ARTISTS AND DESIGNERS

(PROFESSIONAL AND AMATEUR)

### TO CREATE

## AN INSIGNIA FOR THE "OLD MONTEREY BICENTENNIAL" CELEBRATION

A first place award of \$200.00 for the best design will be presented to the winner by the City of Monterey.

A second place award of \$100.00 will be presented by the City of Salinas.

Sponsored by

Old Monterey Bicentennial, Inc.

A California non-profit corporation

### CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

1. The Competition is open to all California artists and designers.
2. The Closing date is APRIL 15, 1968.
3. The object is to design a symbol (like a trade mark) representing the historic role Monterey played in the founding of California.
4. The use: This insignia must be adaptable for several purposes -  
As a crest for stationery  
Enlarged for posters  
Reduced for medals
5. It must be concise in its message and compact in its design - and should include:  
Two dates: 1770 - 1970  
Appropriate illustration or detail from Monterey area history.\*  
It should carry an impact of early California days.
6. Entries should be executed in black on white - on an illustration board cut to 10 x 10 inches. The shape of the insignia itself is a choice for the artist.
7. Name and address of the contestant must be placed in a sealed envelope which should be firmly attached to the back of the board. The insignia itself - must not be signed.
8. All entries become the property of Old Monterey Bicentennial and competitors waive all rights to their entries upon submission; more than one entry may be submitted if desired.

CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE

9. All entries must be mailed by APRIL 15, 1968 to  
"Old Monterey Bicentennial" Contest  
P.O. Box 1770

Monterey, California 93940

(Entries may be delivered in person to Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, 353 Camino El Estero, Monterey).

10. Judging will take place - and the winner announced - the third week  
In April. All entries may be rejected at the discretion of the judges.

Judges:

Mrs. Nathaniel Owings, Chairman      Miss E. Charlton Fortune

Miss Margaret Bruton                  John G. Hughes II

(All rules are incorporated in this document; however, contestants wishing further information can phone or write: Miss Margi Serchel, Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 1770, 353 Camino El Estero, Monterey 93940 (tel: (408) 375-2252)

\*Proposals for illustrative material which might be incorporated: Old Custom House, Colton Hall, Pacific House (or details thereof), early shipping in Monterey Bay, Padre Serra, the Carmel Mission, Presidio Cross, artifacts and other reminders of Spanish occupation.

March 1968



# TREASURY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON 25

*encl 2*

OFFICE OF  
DIRECTOR OF THE MINT

## COMMEMORATIVE COINS

Private groups have long followed the custom of applying to the Congress for permission to raise money for, and to defray expenses connected with, various types of state and national celebrations through the sale of commemorative coins. Such coins must be authorized by special legislation, and in order to become law the bills must be passed by both the House and the Senate and be signed by the President. The Treasury Department does not handle distribution of these coins. They are manufactured by the Mints but are turned over at face value to the agency designated in the act of Congress to receive them. The Government exercises no control beyond this point, either over the distribution or the price asked for the coins.

It is not until the bills have been signed by the President, and the sponsoring agency communicates with the Office of the Director of the Mint to work out the details of the coinage, that we are in possession of the address where interested collectors may write for coins.

The Department is not in a position to supply information relative to pending legislation. Until measures have been enacted into law they are subject to change. It is suggested that you watch your daily papers for news on such bills, and after they have passed both House and Senate and have received the President's signature, if the agency address still is not listed in the papers, then make inquiry of this office.

No commemorative coins have been authorized since 1951 and none have been minted since 1954.

No mailing list is maintained by the Treasury Department covering the issuance of commemorative coins.

Commemorative coins are not sold by the Mint. At the present time there are no sponsoring agencies (as designated by Congress) in operation; therefore, commemorative coins must be obtained from collectors, dealers, or elsewhere.



## TREASURY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON 25

OFFICE OF  
DIRECTOR OF THE MINTCOMMEMORATIVE COINS

The Treasury Department has consistently opposed the enactment of legislation authorizing the minting of commemorative coins. It is the position of the Department that these issues conflict with the purpose for which the coinage system was established, namely, to provide a medium of exchange; and that they lead to indefensible abuses, notably to traffic in them for private gain.

President Hoover, in 1930, refused to approve a commemorative coin bill in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Gadsden Purchase.

The Congress, after conducting extensive hearings on the abuses connected with commemorative coins, enacted legislation prohibiting the issuance of all commemorative coins authorized prior to March 1, 1939. The results of the Congressional investigation appear in House Report No. 101, 76th Congress, First Session.

The Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures, in this report, pointed out that Congress, being cognizant of the dangers and confusion which flow from the multiplicity of designs in our coins, had enacted Section 3510 of the revised statutes of the United States prohibiting any change in the design or the die of any coin oftener than once in 25 years, but that with the flood of commemorative coin authorizations, this statute had in recent years been more honored in the breach than in the observance. The Committee stated that bills had been enacted providing for a certain number of pieces with no limitation upon the time during which they could be coined, and pointed out that orders for coins in situations like that naturally were small, since the fewer coins minted in a given year, the higher the price may go. This also, they said, applied to the minting of the same coin at each mint. The Committee commented that continuing orders had been received at the Mints for coins authorized as far back as 10 years before.

The Committee remarked upon the amount of special work imposed on the already overburdened mints, and the fact that special commemorative orders affect every department of the Mints from the engraving department, including intricate and exacting engraving and die cutting, down to the delivery department.

They remarked that another disturbing feature of the whole policy which had developed in recent years, was the appalling extent to which the coins had been exploited for private gain, when coins are intended to be made of government account. They further stressed a practice, which they considered objectionable on the part of interested organizations to whom the coins were delivered by the Mint in accordance with the Acts authorizing their issue, of delivering a large number of such coins to dealers for disposal to the public, and pointed out that there was no control over the charge whi

dealers might make. They observed that this defeated the intent of the Congress in authorizing such legislation, since the only purpose for passing a bill was to apply the profits from the sale of the coins to the cost of the celebration they are intended to memorialize, and that when coins are gathered up by dealers and offered at absurd premiums, the profits go not to the organization but to individual merchants. This Committee said, "No country in the world permits such abuse of its coinage as has been permitted in this country," and stated that every time the importunities of an organization for special coins are yielded to, the defense against the whole pernicious policy is weakened.

Not until 1946, was a bill again passed providing for a commemorative coin. In that year two were issued; one to honor Booker T. Washington, and the other to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the admission of Iowa into the Union. Although President Truman signed these two bills, he stated that he would look with disfavor upon any further commemorative coin bills.

Although the Department recognizes the merits of the objective for which such coins are proposed to be issued, it maintains that the enactment of legislation providing for the coinage of one commemorative coin only serves to open the gate to other commemorative issues. That this is a valid objection is graphically illustrated by the fact that in the 80th Congress, 26 bills providing for commemorative coins were introduced.

In the closing days of the first session of that Congress, two bills passed both Houses, but were vetoed by the President. They were bills to commemorate the admission of Wisconsin into the Union, and the organization of Minnesota as a territory.

Three commemorative coin bills were vetoed by President Eisenhower on February 3, 1954; one commemorating the 300th anniversary of the founding of the city of Northampton, Massachusetts; and one commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Louisiana Purchase.

Attached is a copy of a tabulation showing the number of commemorative coins authorized since 1892, the number issued, and the number returned to the Mints for melting. This tabulation clearly shows that a great many of the commemorative coins have not been as readily salable as their sponsors indicated.

Following is a collection of the significant statements and messages by President Eisenhower, President Hoover, President Roosevelt, and President Truman, in opposition to bills authorizing the issuance of commemorative coins, and favoring commemorative medals in lieu thereof. These views have been similarly held and expressed by all Secretaries of the Treasury since and including Secretary Mellon.

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER

TO THE UNITED STATES SENATE:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, S. 2474, "To authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces to commemorate the tercentennial of the founding of the city of New York."

The proposed legislation would authorize the coinage of not to exceed five million silver 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the tercentennial of the founding of the city of New York.

The principal objection to commemorative coins is that they detract from the fundamental function of the coinage as a medium of exchange. Multiplicity of designs on United States coins would tend to create confusion among the public, and to facilitate counterfeiting. The Congress recognized the necessity for limiting the designs of coins by Section 3510 of the Revised Statutes, which provides that:

"\* \* \* no change in the design or die of any coin shall be made oftener than once in twenty-five years from and including the year of the first adoption of the design, model, die, or hub for the same coin; \* \* \*"

I am further advised by the Treasury Department that in the past in many instances the public interest in these special coins has been so short-lived that their sales for the purposes intended have lagged with the result that large quantities have remained unsold and have been returned to the mints for melting.

I fully recognize the importance to the country of the event which this coin would commemorate. I recognize, too, that the authorization of one or two or three of such issues of coins would not do major harm. However, experience has demonstrated that the authorization of even a single commemorative issue brings forth a flood of other authorizations to commemorate events or anniversaries of local or national importance. In the administration of President Hoover these authorizations multiplied to the point where he felt compelled to exercise his veto. The same pattern recurred in the administration of Presidents Roosevelt and Truman. In view of this historical pattern, which by now has become so clear, I think that it is both wiser and fairer to make known my views on this subject at the outset. I therefore regretfully withhold my approval of S. 2474.

As has been suggested in the past, it seems to me wholly appropriate that anniversaries like this one, which the Congress deems it desirable to commemorate, should be recognized by bills authorizing the Treasury to provide such commemorative medals at cost.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER.

THE WHITE HOUSE

February 3, 1954.

TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

I am returning herewith, without my approval, H. R. 1917, "to authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces to commemorate the sesquicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase."

The proposed legislation would authorize the coinage of not to exceed 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  million silver 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Louisiana Purchase.

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DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
February 3, 1954

TO THE UNITED STATES SENATE:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, S. 987, "To authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the tercentennial celebration of the founding of the city of Northampton, Massachusetts."

The proposed legislation would authorize the coinage of one million silver 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the tercentennial celebration of the founding of the city of Northampton, Massachusetts.

The principal objection to commemorative coins is that they detract from the fundamental function of the coinage as a medium of exchange. Multiplicity of designs on United States coins would tend to create confusion among the public, and to facilitate counterfeiting. The Congress recognized the necessity for limiting the designs of coins by section 3510 of the Revised Statutes which provides that:

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DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

THE WHITE HOUSE

February 3, 1954

PRESIDENT TRUMAN

VETO MESSAGE

TO THE SENATE:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, S. 1304, "To authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the one-hundredth anniversary of the organization of Minnesota as a Territory of the United States."

The proposed legislation would authorize the coinage of not to exceed one hundred and fifty thousand silver 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the one-hundredth anniversary of the organization of Minnesota as a Territory of the United States.

We are all proud of the fine achievements of the people of Minnesota. I believe that it is proper for the Nation to share in commemorating the milestone of Minnesota's development. But I am convinced that it is not a wise national policy to issue special coins for this purpose.

On July 31, 1947, I withheld my approval of H.R. 1180, a bill "To authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the one-hundredth anniversary of the admission of Wisconsin into the Union as a State." In my memorandum of disapproval I pointed out that the fundamental difficulty of issuing special coins for commemorative occasions is that such coins would be full legal tender. It is clearly unwise to require a multiplicity of designs on United States coins which would create confusion in our monetary system, facilitate counterfeiting, and encourage traffic in commemorative coins for private profit.

This point was well stated by President Hoover in vetoing a similar bill in 1930. He said:

"There are a great many historical events which it is not only highly proper but desirable to commemorate in a suitable way, but the longer use of our coins for this purpose is unsuitable and unwise. This would seem to be clear from the very number of events to be commemorated, and past experience indicates how difficult it is to draw the line and how such a practice, once it is recognized, tends constantly to grow. If this bill is to become law, it is not apparent on what grounds similar measures, no matter how numerous, may be rejected. Yet their enactment in such numbers must bring further confusion to our monetary system."

This bill which I am now returning illustrates the difficulty of establishing any rule denominating the events of national importance which should be commemorated by the issuance of special coins. Thus, each of the 48 States has an anniversary of statehood to celebrate. Many of them have anniversaries of their formation as Territories and some could appropriately commemorate their establishments as colonies. Furthermore, there are many historic cities and towns whose anniversaries are of national importance. The United States has participated in a number of celebrated wars and campaigns. Moreover, we have had our great explorers, our great pioneers, our great statesmen -- our great heritage

of notable men and women. If we were to commemorate them all with coins we would be starting down an endless path.

The accuracy of this statement is indicated by the fact that before the Congress to issue special coins commemorating no less notable events in our history. I am sure that there are many events worthy of national recognition.

In 1890, the Congress of the United States laid down a rule that the design on the coins of the United States should not be changed often. It can be changed only once in 25 years. The purpose of this rule was to prevent multiplicity of coinage issues and the consequent confusion of the public and the facilitating of counterfeiting. Every issuance of a special coin is in derogation of this wise rule, and I cannot approve such a practice.

There is a further difficulty. In almost every case in which a commemorative coin is issued, a part of the issue finds its way into the hands of dealers in coins, and the greatest profit is made by them rather than by the worthy organization which sponsors the issue. In this connection, I call to the attention of the Congress a fine report issued in 1939 (H. Rept. No. 101, 76th Congress) by the late Congressman John Cochran in which he graphically revealed the abuses which have resulted from multiple issues of commemorative coins.

It is for these reasons that President Hoover and President Franklin Roosevelt recommended that commemorative medals, rather than coins, should be issued for events of national importance. I believe this policy is sound, and in February 1947 I recommended that the Congress enact appropriate legislation. I am pleased to note that in January 1948 the Senate passed S. 865, which would carry out this recommendation. I hope that the Congress will complete its action on this legislation in the near future and that the Congress will then approve a commemorative medal for the 1949 anniversary of Minnesota's organization as a Territory.

For the reasons stated above, I feel compelled to return S. 1304 without my approval.

HARRY S. TRUMAN

THE WHITE HOUSE  
May 4, 1948

February 26, 1947

My dear Mr. Chairman:

My attention has been directed to the numerous bills which have been introduced providing for the minting of coins commemorating historical events.

During the 79th Congress, two laws were enacted providing for commemorative coins honoring the late Booker T. Washington and anniversary of the admission of Iowa into the Union as a State. I approved these two enactments, I stated that I would have preferred providing for commemorative medals rather than for standard coins value as a medium of exchange, and that I would look with disfavor proposals for the enactment of legislation providing for commemorative

Both my predecessor, the late President Roosevelt, and former Hoover opposed the enactment of legislation of this character and issuance of medals to commemorate special events. In his veto message on H. R. 2029, 71st Congress, President Hoover expressed succinctly the objections to commemorative coins. That message reads in part:

"There are a great many historical events which it is not only highly proper but desirable to commemorate in a suitable way, but the longer use of our coins for this purpose is unsuitable and unwise. This would seem to be clear from the very number of events to be commemorated, and past experience indicates how difficult it is to draw the line and how such a practice, once it is recognized, tends constantly to grow. If this bill is to become law, it is not apparent on what grounds similar measures, no matter how numerous, may be rejected. Yet their enactment in such numbers must bring further confusion to our monetary system. The Government would be glad to assist such celebrations in the creation of appropriate medals which do not have coinage functions."

In a letter dated June 17, 1935 and addressed to your Committee, the late President Roosevelt said:

"\* \* \* These coins do not have a wide circulation as a medium of exchange, and, because of the multiplicity of designs arising from the issuance of such coins, they jeopardize the integrity of our coins and cause confusion. Accordingly, I think the practice of striking special coins in commemoration of historical events and permitting the sponsoring organizations to sell them at a profit is a misuse of our coinage system, which is assuming increasingly dangerous proportions."

I would like to recommend for your consideration the attached draft of a bill providing for the striking of medals for commemorative purposes. With the enactment of this legislation, it would be possible to give proper attention to events of historical importance while at the same time preserving the integrity of our coinage system. I am addressing a similar letter to the Chairman of the House Committee on Banking and Currency.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) HARRY S. TRUMAN

Honorable Charles W. Tobey  
Chairman, Committee on Banking  
and Currency  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C.

A BILL

To provide for the striking of medals in lieu of coins, for commemorative purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in order to promote uniformity in the designs of the various coins of the United States, to facilitate their proper use as circulating media, to enable counterfeit pieces to be readily detected, and to avoid the confusion which arises from special issues of commemorative coins, it is declared to be the policy of the United States to authorize the striking of commemorative medals in lieu of commemorative coins and to discontinue the striking of such coins.

Section 2. The Director of the Mint shall enter into contracts subject to such terms and conditions as the Director shall prescribe, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, for the striking and furnishing of such commemorative medals as may be authorized from time to time by law. The striking and furnishing of medals pursuant to this section shall be subject to the provisions of section 3551 of the Revised Statutes, except that the dies necessary for the preparation of such medals may be prepared at the Mint, with the machinery and apparatus thereof, from suitable models submitted to and approved by the Director of the Mint. The Director of the Mint shall cause such medals to be struck and furnished at not less than the estimated cost of manufacture, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery and overhead expenses; and security satisfactory to the Director of the Mint shall be furnished to indemnify the United States for the full payment of such cost. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3552 of the Revised Statutes (U. S. Code, Title 31, sec. 359), all proceeds received from the manufacture of such medals shall be credited to the appropriation against which the cost of manufacture has been charged.

(An identical communication was sent to the House Committee on Banking and Currency.)

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STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

(Made on August 7, 1946)

I have approved the bill H. R. 2377 to authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the one-hundredth anniversary of the admission of Iowa into the Union as a State, with the bill H. R. 6528 to authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces to commemorate the life and perpetuate the ideals and teachings of Booker T. Washington. I thoroughly approve of the commemorative aim of these enactments and of the participation by the Federal Government in the proposed commemorations.

I should have much preferred however, to approve legislation that would have provided for commemorative medals rather than for standard coins having currency value as a medium of exchange.

The Treasury Department advises me that during the period from 1901 to 1936, there were 26 coinage enactments of a commemorative character, with the result that legislation was enacted in 1939 prohibiting such coinage, and the

issuance of such coins, authorized prior to March 1, 1939. I am further advised that no new commemorative coins have been issued from 1937 to present.

The Treasury Department takes the position that the multiplicity of designs on United States coins resulting from the coinage of commemorative coin tends to create confusion, to increase the possibility of counterfeiting, to encourage traffic in commemorative coins for private profit, and, in general, to detract from the fundamental purpose for which money is issued, namely, to provide a medium of exchange.

I concur with this position of the Treasury Department, and I shall look with disfavor upon any future proposals for the enactment of legislation of this character.

HARRY S. TRUMAN

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

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MEMORANDUM OF DISAPPROVAL

I find it necessary to withhold my approval of enrolled bill, H. R. 2734, "An Act to authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the four-hundredth anniversary of the journey and exploration of Francisco Vasquez de Coronado."

This enrolled bill would provide for the coinage at a mint of the United States to be designated by the Director of the Mint of not to exceed 100,000 silver 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the four-hundredth anniversary of the journey and explorations of Francisco Vasquez de Coronado, such coins to be of standard size, weight, and composition, and of a special appropriate single design to be fixed by the Director of the Mint, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Bills are being introduced in Congress with increasing frequency authorizing the minting of coins commemorating events, many of which are of no more than local significance. During the ten-year period from 1920 to 1930 fifteen issues of 50-cent pieces of special design were authorized to be coined to commemorate historical events, an average of one issue every eight months. The aggregate amount of the coins authorized to be struck was over 13,000,000.

On April 20, 1930 the President, at the instance of the Treasury Department, which has long been opposed to the issuance of commemorative coins, vetoed H. R. 2029, "An Act to authorize the coinage of silver 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Gadsden Purchase." The veto of this measure had the effect of discouraging for a time the enactment of legislation of this nature, and no new commemorative coins were authorized until 1933. Since that date twenty-eight issues of such coins have been authorized, an average

of one issue every two and a fraction months, notwithstanding the fact that the Treasury has consistently during this period expressed its disapproval of this type of legislation. The aggregate amount of the coins authorized to be struck was approximately 3,800,000 pieces. At the end of the last session of Congress there were pending, I am advised, at least sixty-six bills to provide for the coinage of as many different issues of commemorative coins.

The rate at which new issues of commemorative coins have been authorized since 1932 has increased three-fold over the ten year period between 1920 and 1930. These coins do not have a wide circulation as a medium of exchange, and, because of the multiplicity of designs arising from the issuance of such coins, they jeopardize the integrity of our coins and cause confusion.

The Congress recognized the wisdom of maintaining uniformity in the designs of the various coins of the United States by providing in section 3519 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, that:

"\* \* \* no change in the design or die of any coin shall be made oftener than once in twenty-five years from and including the year of the first adoption of the design, model, die, or hub for the same coin:\* \* \*"

Recognizing that the practice of striking special coins in commemoration of historical events and of permitting the sponsoring organization to sell them at a profit was a misuse of our coinage system, which was assuming increasingly dangerous proportions, I sent to the Chairman of the Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures of the House of Representatives, and to the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency, in June, 1935, a proposed bill which was designed to terminate the practice of striking commemorative coins and to authorize, in substitution, the striking of appropriate commemorative medals. In January, 1937, I again wrote to the Chairmen of such committees with respect to this matter. Bill S. 3036 of the 74th Congress, and Bill S. 1895 of the 75th Congress embodied these suggestions.

For the foregoing reasons I find it necessary to withhold my approval of this enrolled bill.

I have informed those interested in the celebration of this anniversary that the Mint of the United States will be glad to strike off a commemorative medal in place of the 50-cent coin.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

THE WHITE HOUSE

June 30, 1938

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The White House  
Washington, January 21, 1937.

The Chairman, Committee on Banking and Currency.  
United States Senate.

My Dear Mr. Chairman: On June 17, 1935, I wrote to your committee expressing my concern over the frequency with which bills had been and were being introduced in Congress authorizing the minting of coins to commemorate historical events.

In view of the large number of bills of this nature which have been passed by Congress since that date, I am again calling the matter to your attention and asking your cooperation to the end that this practice, which, in my opinion, is undue, may be curbed.

The history of this type of legislation shows that during the 10-year period between 1920 and 1930, 15 issues of 50-cent pieces of special design were coined to commemorate historical events. The veto by the President on April 20, 1930, at the instance of the Treasury Department, of H. R. 2029, an Act to authorize the coinage of silver 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Gadsden Purchase had the effect of discouraging temporarily the enactment of legislation of this nature, and no new commemorative coins were authorized until 1933. However, since 1933, 26 issues of such coins have been authorized, in spite of the fact that the Treasury Department has consistently during this period expressed its disapproval of this type of legislation. Sixteen such bills were passed during the second session of the Seventy-fourth Congress. These I reluctantly approved out of deference to the wishes of your committee and the Congress that they be enacted, notwithstanding the objection of the Treasury Department. During the calendar year 1935, 393,247 commemorative 50-cent pieces were struck. In the calendar year 1936, the number increased almost two-fold to 737,464.

Commemorative coins do not have a wide circulation as a medium of exchange and it is my conviction, shared by the Treasury Department, that, due to the multiplicity of their designs, their issuance results not only in confusion but jeopardizes the integrity of our coinage system as well. Although the practice has been to permit the sponsoring organizations to sell commemorative coins to the public above their face value to provide revenue, experience has shown that seldom is the necessary or hoped for revenue raised.

The growing tendency to issue commemorative coins is contrary to and inconsistent with the policy of the Government which has been to keep the number of coin designs reduced to a minimum in order to insure against the dangers of counterfeiting. Congress recognized the soundness of this policy by enacting Revised Statutes 3510 (U.S.C. title 31, sec. 276), which provides as follows: " \* \* no change in the design or die of any coin shall be made oftener than once in 25 years from and including the year of the first adoption of the design, model, die, or hub for the same coin \* \* \*".

In my letter of June 17, 1935, I suggested that historical events could be very suitably and properly commemorated through the striking of medals in lieu of coins for that purpose, and recommended to the consideration of your

committee a proposed bill designed to carry out such suggestion. I recall that bill S. 3086, which embodied these suggestions, was passed by the Senate on July 30, 1935, and on August 1, 1935, referred to the Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures, where no further action was taken.

The alarming increase in the demand, during the past year, for legislation authorizing the issuance of special coins to commemorate a wide variety of historical events, many of which are of no more than local significance, and the dangers inherent in the practice which has heretofore prevailed, make it, I feel, imperative that restrictions designed to curb this misuse of the coinage be invoked. It is my present view that the proposal contained in my previous letter is still most desirable from the standpoint of all concerned.

I therefore, wish to express the hope that your committee will give early consideration to this matter.

Very truly yours,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT  
The President

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The White House  
Washington, June 17, 1935

Hon. Duncan U. Fletcher

Chairman, Committee on Banking and Currency  
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

My Dear Mr. Chairman: Bills are being introduced in Congress with increasing frequency authorizing the Minting of coins commemorating events, many of which are of no more than local significance. During the 10-year period from 1920 to 1930, 15 issues of 50-cent pieces of special design were authorized to be coined to commemorate historical events, an average of 1 issue every 8 months. The aggregate amount of the coins authorized to be struck was over 13,000,000.

On April 20, 1930, the President at the instance of the Treasury Department, which has long been opposed to the issuance of commemorative coins, vetoed H. R. 2029, an act to authorize the coinage of silver 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Gadsden Purchase. The veto of this measure had the effect of discouraging for a time the enactment of legislation of this nature, and no new commemorative coins were authorized until 1933. Since that date nine issues of such coins have been authorized, an average of one issue every three and a fraction months, notwithstanding the fact that in each case the Treasury Department reported adversely on the bill. The aggregate amount of the coins authorized to be struck was almost 3,000,000. At the present time there are many bills and proposals of a similar nature pending in Congress.

The rate at which new issues of commemorative coins have been since 1932 has increased two fold over the 10-year period between 1922 and 1930. These coins do not have a wide circulation as a medium of exchange, because of the multiplicity of designs arising from the issuance of such coins they jeopardize the integrity of our coins and cause confusion. Accordingly I think the practice of striking special coins in commemoration of historic events and permitting the sponsoring organizations to sell them at a profit is a disservice to our coinage system, which is assuming increasingly dangerous proportions.

The Congress recognized the wisdom of maintaining uniformity in the designs of the various coins of the United States by providing in section 3510 of the Revised Statutes that:

"\* \* \* no change in the design or die of any coin shall be made oftener than once in 25 years from and including the year of the first adoption of the design, model, die, or hub for the same coin \* \* \*."

It seems to me that historical events could be very suitably and properly commemorated through the striking by the Government of medals in lieu of coins. These medals could be struck and furnished at not less than the estimated cost of their manufacture by the Bureau of the Mint, since this function is now carried on to a limited extent by such Bureau and clearly falls within its province.

By the substitution of appropriate commemorative medals for special 50-cent pieces much is to be gained. The size of the medals can be made larger than 50-cent pieces, thus providing for more suitable inscriptions and more artistic commemorative designs. It is my thought that sculptors and artists will be encouraged thereby to raise the standards of medal making in the United States.

Under the present system of seeking to obtain special legislation of commemorative coins, many anniversaries commemorating local historical events are under a serious handicap. This new proposal for the striking off of suitable medals will, I believe, encourage the adequate observance of these anniversaries.

There is transmitted herewith a proposed bill drafted by the Treasury Department which is designed to carry out this proposal.

Very Sincerely yours,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

A BILL to provide for the striking of medals, in lieu of coins for commemorative purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in order to promote uniformity in the designs of the various coins of the United States, to facilitate their proper use as circulating media, to enable counterfeit pieces to be readily

detected, and to avoid the confusion which arises from special commemorative coins, it is declared to be the policy of the United States to authorize the striking of commemorative medals in lieu of coins and to discontinue the striking of such coins. This section shall be construed to prohibit the coinage and issuance of commemorative coins not authorized by law.

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Sec. 2. The Director of the Mint shall enter into contracts subject to such terms and conditions as the Director shall prescribe, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, for the striking and furnishing of such commemorative medals as may be authorized from time to time by law. The striking and furnishing of medals pursuant to this section shall be subject to the provisions of section 3551 of the Revised Statutes, except that the dies necessary for the preparation of such medals may be prepared at the mint, with the machinery and apparatus thereof, from suitable models submitted to the Director of the Mint. The Director of the Mint shall cause such medals to be struck and furnished at not less than the estimated cost of manufacture, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery and overhead expenses, and security satisfactory to the Director of the Mint, shall be furnished to indemnify the United States for the full payment of such cost.

#### PRESIDENT HOOVER

Message from the President--Coinage of Silver 50-Cent Pieces in Commemoration of the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the Gadsden Purchase (H. Doc. No. 354).

#### To the House of Representatives:

Herewith is returned, without approval, H. R. 2029, an act to authorize the coinage of silver 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Gadsden Purchase.

This bill provides that in commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the acquisition by the United States of the territory known as the Gadsden Purchase, there shall be coined in the mints of the United States 50-cent pieces to the number of 10,000, to be of a design fixed by the Director of the Mint and approved by the Secretary of the Treasury. The coins are to be legal tender and are to be issued only upon the request of the Gadsden Purchase Coin Committee in such numbers and at such times as they shall request.

The matter is not perhaps one of large importance in itself, were it not for the fact of the great number of other similar proposals by the aggregate of which the principles of sound coinage are being jeopardized. Moreover, the multiplicity of these demands have largely destroyed their interest and value for the purposes intended.

During the past 10 years, 15 such special coins have been issued at an average of 1 each 8 months, an aggregate of over 13,000,000 such coins have been authorized. There are now pending before Congress five other such coinage and before the Treasury Department several other requests for support to proposals of the same character.

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The monetary system of the country is created and exists for certain well defined and essential purposes. Sound practice demands that it should not be diverted to other uses, if we are best to serve the needs of trade and commerce, satisfy the convenience of the people, and protect the integrity of our coins. Experience has demonstrated that the necessities and convenience of the people can best be served and the integrity of our coins can only be protected from counterfeiting by limiting the number of designs with which in the course of time the public can become thoroughly familiar. Indeed, the Congress itself has recognized the soundness of this principle by providing that "no change in the design or die of any coin shall be made oftener than once in 25 years from and including the year of the first adoption of the design, model, die, or hub for the same coin."

The growing practice of issuing commemorative coins, incidentally to be sold at a profit and provide funds for projects of celebrations, appears to me to run counter to this principle and by their multiplicity to have become a misuse of our coinage system. These coins do not serve for circulating medium which is the real function of coins. They introduce an element of confusion and lack of uniformity. The danger of counterfeit coins being successfully passed is unquestionably increased by a multiplicity of designs, with which the public cannot become thoroughly familiar. Furthermore, the very premiums at which these coins are sold stimulate counterfeiting of them.

There are a great many historical events which it is not only highly proper but desirable to commemorate in a suitable way, but the longer use of our coins for this purpose is unsuitable and unwise. This would seem to be clear from the very number of events to be commemorated, and past experience indicates how difficult it is to draw the line and how such a practice, once it is recognized, tends constantly to grow. If this bill is to become law, it is not apparent on what grounds similar measures, no matter how numerous, may be rejected. Yet their enactment in such numbers must bring further confusion to our monetary system. The Government would be glad to assist such celebrations in the creation of appropriate medals which do not have coinage functions.

HERBERT HOOVER

THE WHITE HOUSE, April 21, 1930.

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| Year                          | Denom-   | No. Pieces | No. Pieces             | No.       |
|-------------------------------|----------|------------|------------------------|-----------|
| Commemorative Coin            | ina-     | Authorized | Coined                 | M         |
| (Price)                       | tion     |            | (Excludes Assay Coins) |           |
| Mint                          |          |            |                        |           |
| Lumbian Exposition            | 1892 P   | \$0.50     | 5,000,000              | 950,000   |
| "                             | 1893 P   | .50        | .....                  | 4,050,000 |
| "                             | 1893 P   | .25 1/     | 40,000                 | 40,000    |
| Yafette Monument              | 1900 P   | 1.00 2/    | 50,000                 | 50,000    |
| Luisiana Purchase             | 1902 P   | 1.00 3/    | 250,000                | 75,000    |
| "                             | 1903 P   | 1.00 3/    | .....                  | 175,000   |
| Wis and Clark Exposition      | 1904 P   | 1.00 3/    | 250,000                | 25,000    |
| "                             | 1905 P   | 1.00 3/    | .....                  | 35,000    |
| Manama Pacific Exposition     | 1915 S   | 50.00 4/   | 1,500                  | 1,500     |
| "                             | 1915 S   | 50.00 5/   | 1,500                  | 1,500     |
| "                             | 1915 S   | 2.50 3/    | 10,000                 | 10,000    |
| "                             | 1915 S   | 1.00 3/    | 25,000                 | 25,000    |
| "                             | 1915 S   | .50        | 200,000                | 60,000    |
| Skimley Memorial              | 1916 P   | 1.00 3/    | 100,000                | 20,000    |
| "                             | 1917 P   | 1.00 3/    | .....                  | 10,000    |
| Illinois Centennial           | 1918 P   | .50        | 100,000                | 100,000   |
| ine Centennial                | 1920 P   | .50        | 100,000                | 50,000    |
| anding of the Pilgrims        | 1920 P   | .50        | 300,000                | 200,000   |
| "                             | 1921 P   | .50        | .....                  | 100,000   |
| abama Centennial              | 1921 P   | .50        | 100,000                | 70,000    |
| assouri Centennial            | 1921 P   | .50        | 250,000                | 50,000    |
| ant Memorial                  | 1922 P   | 1.00 3/    | 10,000                 | 10,000    |
| "                             | 1922 P   | .50        | 250,000                | 100,000   |
| ource Doctrine Centennial     | 1923 S   | .50        | 300,000                | 274,000   |
| Eugeneot-Walloon Tercentenary | 1924 P   | .50        | 300,000                | 142,000   |
| Stone Mountain Memorial       | 1925 P   | .50        | 5,000,000              | 2,314,000 |
| Lexington and Concord         | 1925 P   | .50        | 300,000                | 162,000   |
| Fort Vancouver                | 1925 S   | .50        | 300,000                | 50,000    |
| California 75th Anniversary   | 1925 S   | .50        | 300,000                | 150,000   |
| Sesquicentennial of           |          |            |                        |           |
| Declaration of Independence   | 1926 P   | 2.50 3/    | 200,000                | 200,000   |
| Sesquicentennial of           |          |            |                        |           |
| Declaration of Independence   | 1926 P   | .50        | 1,000,000              | 1,000,000 |
| Oregon Trail                  | 1926 P-S | .50        | 6,000,000              | 148,000   |
| "                             | 1928 P   | .50        | .....                  | 50,000    |
| "                             | 1933 D   | .50        | .....                  | 5,250     |
| "                             | 1934 D   | .50        | .....                  | 7,000     |
| "                             | 1936 P-S | .50        | .....                  | 15,000    |
| "                             | 1937 D   | .50        | .....                  | 12,000    |
| "                             | 1933 A   | .50        | .....                  | 18,000    |
| "                             | 1939 A   | .50        | .....                  | 9,000     |
| Battle of Bennington          | 1927 P   | .50        | 40,000                 | 40,000    |
| Hawaii                        | 1928 P   | .50        | 10,000                 | 10,000    |
| Daniel Boone Bicentennial     | 1934 P   | .50        | 600,000                | 10,000    |
| "                             | 1935 A   | .50        | .....                  | 20,000    |
| " (with 1934-35)              | 1935 A   | .50        | .....                  | 14,000    |

| Name of Commemorative Coin     | Year<br>Coinced<br>&<br>Mint* | Denom-<br>ina-<br>tion | No. Pieces<br>Authorized | No. Pieces<br>Coins<br>(Excludes<br>Coins) | Pieces<br>ted |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Daniel Boone Bicentennial      | 1936 A                        | \$0.50                 | .....                    | 22,000                                     | 21,400        |
| " " "                          | 1937 A                        | .50                    | .....                    | 27,500                                     | .....         |
| " " "                          | 1938 A                        | .50                    | .....                    | 25,000                                     | .....         |
| Maryland Tercentenary          | 1934 P                        | .50                    | 25,000                   | 25,000                                     | .....         |
| Arkansas Centennial            | 1935 A                        | .50                    | 500,000                  | 1,000                                      | .....         |
| " " "                          | 1936 A                        | .50                    | .....                    | 30,000                                     | .....         |
| " " "                          | 1937 A                        | .50                    | .....                    | 16,500                                     | 9,600         |
| " " "                          | 1938 A                        | .50                    | .....                    | 18,000                                     | .....         |
| " " "                          | 1939 A                        | .50                    | .....                    | 6,300                                      | .....         |
| Texas Centennial               | 1934 P                        | .50                    | 1,500,000                | 2,000                                      | .....         |
| " " "                          | 1935 A                        | .50                    | .....                    | 30,000                                     | .....         |
| " " "                          | 1936 A                        | .50                    | .....                    | 30,000                                     | 135,000       |
| " " "                          | 1937 A                        | .50                    | .....                    | 24,000                                     | .....         |
| " " "                          | 1938 A                        | .50                    | .....                    | 15,000                                     | .....         |
| Spanish Trail (Cabeza de Vaca) | 1935 P                        | .50                    | 10,000                   | 10,000                                     | .....         |
| City of Hudson                 | 1935 P                        | .50                    | 10,000                   | 10,000                                     | .....         |
| San Diego Exposition           | 1935 S                        | .50                    | 250,000                  | 250,000                                    | .....         |
| " " "                          | 1936                          | .50                    | .....                    | .....                                      | 180,000       |
| " " "                          | 1936 D                        | .50                    | .....                    | 180,000                                    | 150,000       |
| Connecticut Tercentenary       | 1935 P                        | .50                    | 25,000                   | 25,000                                     | .....         |
| Providence Tercentenary        | 1936 A                        | .50                    | 50,000                   | 50,000                                     | .....         |
| Columbia Sesquicentennial      | 1936 A                        | .50                    | 25,000                   | 25,000                                     | .....         |
| Cincinnati 50th Anniversary    | 1936 A                        | .50                    | 15,000                   | 15,000                                     | .....         |
| Long Island Tercentenary       | 1936 P                        | .50                    | 100,000                  | 100,000                                    | 18,227        |
| Cleveland Centennial           | 1936 P                        | .50                    | 50,000                   | 25,000                                     | .....         |
| " " "                          | 1937 P                        | .50                    | .....                    | 25,000                                     | .....         |
| Bridgeport Centennial          | 1936 P                        | .50                    | 25,000                   | 25,000                                     | .....         |
| Wisconsin Centennial           | 1936 P                        | .50                    | 25,000                   | 25,000                                     | .....         |
| Lynchburg                      | 1936 P                        | .50                    | 20,000                   | 20,000                                     | .....         |
| Albany                         | 1936 P                        | .50                    | 25,000                   | 25,000                                     | 7,342         |
| Elgin Centennial               | 1936 P                        | .50                    | 25,000                   | 25,000                                     | 5,000         |
| York County, Maine             | 1936 P                        | .50                    | 30,000                   | 25,000                                     | .....         |
| San Francisco - Oakland        |                               |                        |                          |                                            |               |
| Bay Bridge                     | 1936 S                        | .50                    | 200,000                  | 100,000                                    | 28,631        |
| Robinson (Arkansas)            | 1937 P                        | .50                    | 50,000                   | 25,000                                     | .....         |
| Raleigh                        | 1937 P                        | .50                    | 25,000                   | 50,000                                     | 21,000        |
| New Rochelle                   | 1937 P                        | .50                    | 25,000                   | 25,000                                     | 9,749         |
| Swedes in Delaware             | 1937 P                        | .50                    | 25,000                   | 25,000                                     | 4,022         |
| Gettysburg                     | 1937 P                        | .50                    | 50,000                   | 50,000                                     | 23,100        |
| Norfolk                        | 1937 P                        | .50                    | 25,000                   | 25,000                                     | 8,077         |
| Antietam                       | 1937 P                        | .50                    | 50,000                   | 50,000                                     | 32,000        |
| Iowa                           | 1946 P                        | .50                    | 100,000                  | 100,000                                    | .....         |
| Booker T. Washington           | 1946 A                        | .50                    | 5,000,000                | 1,700,000                                  | .....         |
| " " "                          | 1947 A                        | .50                    | .....                    | 300,000                                    | .....         |



*2*  
*"Stamps"*  
*Medals etc.*

MEDALLIC ART COMPANY

325 EAST 45 ST. • NEW YORK 10017

WILLIAM TREES LOUTH  
PRESIDENT

*Cine*

January 19, 1970

Mr. Hugh Hall  
American Revolution Bicentennial Commission  
Suite 319, Lafayette Building  
811 Vermont Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20242

Dear Mr. Hall:

The Medallic Art Company is pleased to present its suggestions, ideas and recommendations to the United States Bicentennial Commission for its consideration relative to issuing official medals or medallions to commemorate this important occasion.

The Medallic Art Company in New York was established in 1900 and founded in this country the art of producing medals reproduced from sculptors' models. We have been privileged to have prepared in our studios practically all the distinguished, well-known awards of this country, such as the Pulitzer Award, National Medals for Science, the NASA Awards, Official Inaugural medals for our Presidents, the National Gallery of Art Award, as well as many other distinguished scientific and cultural pieces. We have recently completed official medallions for the State Anniversaries in California, Illinois, Indiana, Nebraska, Wyoming and Montana.

A representative exhibit of medallic work illustrating various techniques, diameters and patinas accompanies this letter and is submitted for the Commissioners' evaluation.

PREMISE

Quality should be the key-note of the Commission in regard to all medallic pieces issued. The very image of the United States of America will be reflected in these works of art. It is a tremendous responsibility that the Commission faces. Our finest artists should be commissioned and perhaps

( several different artistic styles utilized.

Undoubtedly, a wide diversity of items will be issued including jewelry, medals in various small sizes, as well as the larger, more substantial desk-weight or display-type medallion.

The potential of the requirements, since distribution will be made to over 217 million Americans in 1976, is so broad that probably more than one firm should be commissioned to undertake various aspects of this medallic promotion, not only to make this a national undertaking, but because meeting the anticipated demand and variety will be a problem for any one manufacturer.

Special care must be taken to guard against too many varieties of medallic pieces being created officially for the Commission or the public will become confused and the impact of the event dulled.

It is desirable, if at all possible, that those medals issued by States, Historical Societies, and other groups be coordinated with the national program.

Undoubtedly, many of the state historical groups will be looking to the Commission for guidance and leadership. Several such groups have already approached the Medallic Art Company and are beginning to formulate their own plans. For this reason, the Commission should work as swiftly as possible.

## SUGGESTIONS

1. The Commission should have its own award or presentation medal for its exclusive use.
2. A large 2 1/2" to 3" diameter display medallion should be issued for sale to the general public. Only in this size are you able to obtain the necessary dignity and artistic value in keeping with the true importance of the occasion.
3. Smaller, inexpensive medallions, perhaps a single-struck piece, coin-like in appearance, perhaps with many variations.
4. The development of a possible award medal that could be used by schools and patriotic organizations. It is possible that a portion of this design could be personalized to contain the emblem of the sponsoring organization.

## ER VARIATIONS

A series of 13 medallions to honor the original 13 colonies.

Fifty medallions to honor the individual states, perhaps a common reverse design with different reverse designs to be selected by the states. These could become groups of medals to be sought by collectors.

Possible single-sided pieces with optional reverse which could be distributed by industry or other sponsoring organizations.

Any medal issued, including the large size desk pieces, could be issued as special collectors' sets in special packaging, different materials, and in different diameters.

## L. Limited Issues

It seems to us that, although it is usual to have limited issues in silver or medallic pieces, there are problems here since, if large numbers of people are unable to obtain these, there could be complaints that the distribution was not wide enough.

- a. One method of limiting the issue would be to announce a definite quantity to be struck and serialized.
- b. A second method is to establish a cut-off date after which further orders and subscriptions would not be received.

## DESIGN

1. At least for the more important medals that are issued, consideration might be given to an open competition to which all sculptors might submit models, these to be judged and displayed at the Smithsonian or a similar organization.
2. The possibility of a closed competition at which only selected artists are asked to submit models.
3. A split competition. What is meant here is two competitions - one for a more contemporary or avant-garde type of medal, and the other competition for a more traditional effort designed for a broad consumer distribution as the collector does seem to prefer a more pictorial type of medallic representation.

4. A competition could be held among graphic artists as opposed to sculptors. Any selected graphic presentation can be translated into sculpture. In this instance the manufacturer could select a competent modeler to execute the necessary sculpture.

5. A single sculptor can be selected and asked to make submissions.

## FUNDING

In all instances, if awarded a contract, Medallic Art Company would be willing to fund prizes for such competitions or any other initial costs relative to bringing the medal to a point of manufacture. This, of course, is subject to reasonable limitations and details which would have to be worked out with the Commission. This guaranty would assure the Commission of not being involved in initial expenditures before income is received.

## DISTRIBUTION

1. I cannot emphasize strongly enough that the sale, if made directly by the Commission to the consumer, will result in a greater profit. We believe that cooperation could be obtained through the American Bankers Association to utilize banks of our country for the proper channels of distribution.

2. Consideration might be given to establishing a distributing company, not only for this item, but for all Bicentennial items.

3. Discounts could be established to dealers, distributors, department stores, etc.

Medallic Art Company stands ready to help the Commission in staffing this organization and, if necessary, to even provide the personnel and to pay salaries as required.

## ADVERTISING

1. The Medallic Art Company and its suppliers, with permission of the Commission, stand ready to prepare nation-wide advertising relative to the availability of this piece.

2. If distributed through banks, these banks would place reminders in all of their institutional advertising.

3. If department stores or distributors were utilized, they would be expected to run their own advertising.

#### TIMING

This is perhaps the most difficult area on which to comment at this time for it depends on how quickly this program can be organized and depends upon the decision made relative to the method of distribution and also upon whether a series of pieces are to be issued.

While it is important to reasonably soon finalize the type of medals to be used, some caution should be exercised in not publicizing the item too early or the importance of their acquisition will be diminished. Certainly a climax should be reached in late 1975 or early 1976.

We believe that some introductory issues could be made prior to this date, but the major, large size, official historical medal should be issued at the culmination of this period.

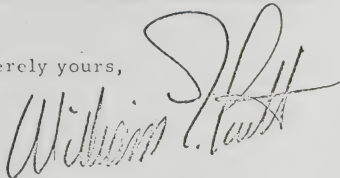
#### RECOMMENDATIONS BY MEDALLIC ART COMPANY

1. An award medallion of a unique and separate design created by a contemporary artist should be used exclusively by the Commission for presentation to distinguished personages.
2. A large size display-type medallion should be issued in bronze and silver in at least two sizes, this piece to be designed by one of this country's leading medallists, to receive nation-wide publicity, and to be issued approximately in the period of from 1974 to 1976. If desired, although not necessarily recommended, there could be medals of more than one design in this category.
3. A series of smaller medallions to commemorate important historical events, states or colonies can be issued. These medals can be issued and distributed as an introductory set of pieces leading up to the major medallion item as outlined above in point No. 2.
4. The distribution of the earlier pieces can be made through the Commission's own supply division discounting the prices for dealers and distributors, yet maintaining its own right to mail-order sales. However, the major official medal would be made available exclusively through banks

handled on a public service basis. All profits would thus be retained by the Commission.

This is an exciting opportunity and Medallic Art Company is pleased to present these preliminary suggestions which we hope the Commission will find useful. We will remain available for further consultation at your pleasure..

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William F. Hart". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "W" and "H".

WTL:dmr

Enclosures



## MEDALLIC ART COMPANY

325 EAST 45 ST. • NEW YORK 10017

WILLIAM TREES LOUTH  
PRESIDENT

January 15, 1970

Mr. Hugh Hall  
American Revolution Bicentennial Commission  
Suite 319, Lafayette Building  
811 Vermont Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20242

Dear Mr. Hall:

The Medalllic Art Company is pleased to present its suggestions, ideas and recommendations to the United States Bicentennial Commission for its consideration relative to issuing official medals or medallions to commemorate this important occasion. The Medalllic Art Company in New York was established in 1900 and founded in this country the art of producing medals reproduced from sculptors' models. We have been privileged to have prepared in our studios practically all the distinguished, well-known awards of this country, such as the Pulitzer Award, National Medals for Science, the NASA Awards, Official Inaugural medals for our Presidents, the National Gallery of Art Award, as well as many other distinguished scientific and cultural pieces. We have recently completed official medallions for the State Anniversaries in California, Illinois, Indiana, Nebraska, Wyoming and Montana.

### PREMISE

Quality should be the key-note of the Commission in regard to all medalllic pieces issued. Our finest artists should be commissioned and perhaps several different artistic styles utilized.

Undoubtedly, a wide diversity of items will be issued including jewelry, medals in various small sizes, as well as the larger, more substantial desk-weight or display-type medallion.

The potential of the requirements, since distribution will be made to over 250 million Americans, is so broad that probably more than one firm should be commissioned to undertake various aspects of this medalllic promotion,

not only to make this a national undertaking, but because meeting the anticipated demand and variety will be a problem for any one manufacturer.

Special care must be taken to guard against too many varieties of medallic pieces being created officially for the Commission or the public will become confused and the impact of the event dulled.

It is desirable, if at all possible, that those medals issued by States, Historical Societies, and other groups be coordinated with the national program.

### SUGGESTIONS

1. The Commission should have its own award or presentation medal for its exclusive use.
2. A large 2 1/2" to 3" diameter display medallion should be issued for sale to the general public. Only in this size are you able to obtain the necessary dignity and artistic value in keeping with the true importance of the occasion.
3. Smaller, inexpensive medallions, perhaps a single-struck piece, coin-like in appearance, perhaps with many variations.
4. The development of a possible award medal that could be used by schools and patriotic organizations. It is possible that a portion of this design could be personalized to contain the emblem of the sponsoring organization.

### OTHER VARIATIONS

1. A series of 13 medallions to honor the original 13 colonies.
2. Fifty medallions to honor the individual states, perhaps a common obverse design with different reverse designs to be selected by the states. These could become groups of medals to be sought by collectors.
3. Possible single-sided pieces with optional reverse which could be distributed by industry or other sponsoring organizations.
4. Any medal issued, including the large size desk pieces, could be issued as special collectors' sets in special packaging, different materials, and in different diameters.

## Limited Issues

It seems to us that, although it is usual to have limited issues in silver of medallic pieces, there are problems here since, if large numbers of people are unable to obtain these, there could be complaints that the distribution was not wide enough.

- a. One method of limiting the issue would be to announce a definite quantity to be struck and serialized.
- b. A second method is to establish a cut-off date after which further orders and subscriptions would not be received.

## DESIGN

1. At least for the more important medals that are issued, consideration might be given to an open competition to which all sculptors might submit models, these to be judged and displayed at the Smithsonian or a similar organization.
2. The possibility of a closed competition at which only selected artists are asked to submit models.
3. A split competition. What is meant here is two competitions - one for a more contemporary or avant-garde type of medal, and the other competition for a more traditional effort designed for a broad consumer distribution as the collector does seem to prefer a more pictorial type of medallic representation.
4. Graphic submission by leading graphic artists can be translated by a sculptor to be selected by the manufacturer.
5. A single sculptor can be selected and asked to make submissions.

## FUNDING

In all instances, if awarded a contract, Medallic Art Company would be willing to fund prizes for such competitions or any other initial costs relative to bringing the medal to a point of manufacture. This, of course is subject to reasonable limitations and details which would have to be worked out with the Commission. This guaranty would assure the Commission of not being involved in initial expenditures before income is received.

## DISTRIBUTION

1. I cannot emphasize strongly enough that the sale, if made directly by the Commission to the consumer, will result in a greater profit. We believe that cooperation could be obtained through the American Bankers Association to utilize banks of our country for the proper channels of distribution.
2. Consideration might be given to establishing a distributing company, not only for this item, but for all Bicentennial items.
3. Discounts could be established to dealers, distributors, department stores, etc.

Medallic Art Company stands ready to help the Commission in staffing this organization and, if necessary, to even provide the personnel and to pay salaries as required.

## ADVERTISING

1. The Medallic Art Company and its suppliers, with permission of the Commission, stand ready to prepare nation-wide advertising relative to the availability of this piece.
2. If distributed through banks, these banks would place reminders in all of their institutional advertising.
3. If department stores or distributors were utilized, they would be expected to run their own advertising.

## TIMING

This is perhaps the most difficult area on which to comment at this time for it depends on how quickly this program can be organized and depends upon the decision made relative to the method of distribution and also upon whether a series of pieces are to be issued.

While it is important to reasonably soon finalize the type of medals to be used, some caution should be exercised in not publicizing the item too early or the importance of their acquisition will be diminished. Certainly a climax should be reached in late 1975 or early 1976.

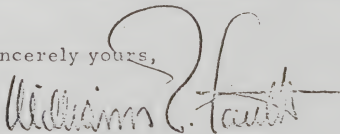
We believe that some introductory issues could be made prior to this date, but the major, large size, official historical medal should be issued at the culmination of this period.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS BY MEDALLIC ART COMPANY

1. An award medallion of a unique and separate design created by a contemporary artist should be used exclusively by the Commission for presentation to distinguished personages.
2. A large size display-type medallion should be issued in bronze and silver in at least two sizes, this piece to be designed by one of this country's leading medallists, to receive nation-wide publicity, and to be issued approximately in the period of from 1974 to 1976. If desired, although not necessarily recommended, there could be medals of more than one design in this category.
3. A series of smaller medallions to commemorate important historical events, states or colonies can be issued. These medals can be issued and distributed earlier than the items described in point No. 2.
4. The distribution of the earlier pieces can be made through the Commission's own supply division discounting the prices for dealers and distributors, yet maintaining its own right to mail-order sales. However, the major official medal would be made available exclusively through banks handled on a public service basis. All profits would thus be retained by the Commission.

This is an exciting opportunity and Medallie Art Company is pleased to present these preliminary suggestions which we hope the Commission will find useful. We will remain available for further consultation at your pleasure.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William F. Taft". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "W" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

WTL:dmr



*Enc 2*

## MEDALLIC ART COMPANY

325 EAST 45 ST. • NEW YORK 10017

WILLIAM TREES 40TH  
PRESIDENT

October 23, 1969

Mr. M. L. Spector  
Executive Director  
American Revolution Bicentennial  
Commission

Lafayette Building  
811 Vermont Avenue, NW  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Spector:

I think you are familiar with our company and the many official medals it has been our privilege to strike. We have most recently prepared the President Nixon official Inaugural Medal, and a number of years ago prepared the official medal for the American Civil War Centennial Commission.

We have already been approached by a number of organizations who are interested in issuing an official American Revolution Bicentennial Medal, and I am hopeful that some coordination can be given to these various projects.

This letter could run on for several pages with many ideas that we have, as well as suggestions that have been presented to us. I think it important that we meet personally. Is there any chance that you would be coming to New York at any time in the near future and could meet with us in our atelier here?

It is also possible that I will be coming to Washington in the near future and would be pleased to meet with you. Any thoughts or suggestions that you have as to how we should proceed will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

If  
enclosures



MEDALLIC ART COMPANY

325 EAST 45 ST. • NEW YORK 10017

December 12, 1968

Mr. Carlisle H. Humelsine  
Colonial Williamsburg  
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

Dear Mr. Humelsine:

You were very kind to reply to my letter in August. I have purposely not bothered you further.

You indicated that you were in the process of establishing some headquarters of the administrative staff in Washington. I would appreciate knowing if an Executive Director has been appointed as yet, and the address of this office.

You will be interested to know that our firm has been designated as the authorized manufacturer of the official Nixon Inaugural Medal. We have had the pleasure of meeting twice with the president-elect, and have developed a medallion which has received his enthusiastic endorsement, and which we expect to sell throughout the country to raise funds for the Inaugural Committee.

We will look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

If

May 24, 1968

RL 2  
wld

Mr. Carlisle H. Humelsine, Chairman,  
American Revolution Bicentennial Commission,  
c/o Colonial Williamsburg, Inc.,  
Williamsburg, Virginia.

Dear Mr. Humelsine:

As Chairman of the President's American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, you may want to know about National Bicentennial Productions, Inc.

The company was organized to develop - in conjunction with various businesses across the country - high-quality products and special events celebrating the anniversary. We intend to establish standards of good taste, appropriateness and value in the design, content and production of commodities (books, souvenirs, displays, etc.) and events such as concert and drama tours, art exhibitions and local pageants.

We plan to stimulate and sustain enthusiasm and activity at every level, nationwide and overseas, with emphasis on involving the business community and the performing arts.

NBP feels that it is important that the Bicentennial does not become primarily a "Philadelphia" affair as did the Sesquicentennial and the Centennial before it. We envision this anniversary as a vital occasion in all 50 States and also in the countries that participated in our Revolutionary history.

We look forward to cooperating with your Commission in any way you may find our services useful. We hope we can supplement, on the commercial level, the work of the Commission which, predictably, will have a huge mission to accomplish on the official and cultural levels.

NBP seeks the Commission's endorsement of our efforts. To that end, we will be pleased to provide you with full information concerning our plans.

Sincerely,



Melville Bernstein, President  
15 East 48th St. New York, N.Y. 10017

MB/lm



# MEDALLIC ART COMPANY

325 EAST 45 ST. • NEW YORK 10017

WILLIAM TREES LOUTH  
PRESIDENT

April 9, 1968

Mr. Whitney North Seymour, Sr.  
Simpson, Thatcher and Bartlett  
120 Broadway  
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Seymour:

It was such a pleasure to meet you personally at the recent National Sculpture Society dinner, and I want to take this opportunity to thank you for helping out the Society. Your remarks were the highlight of the evening, and I have heard many favorable comments from the sculptors stating that you hit just the right highlights of their history.

I was particularly interested in your comments relative to the Bicentennial Commission, and I am sending along a copy of a speech that was printed in the Sculpture Review in 1967. I have marked one or two paragraphs that I particularly want to call to your attention, and you will also find a photostat of the actual notes from which the speech was delivered, which included an announcement relative to a nationwide competition that Medalllic Art Company plans to sponsor. I did not put this in my comments of the Sculpture Review for I felt it was a little too early to mention this.

I do feel very strongly that our country should have some commemorative coins on this occasion, and I would hope that perhaps the Medalllic Art Company competition might be for the official Bicentennial Medal as used by your group for award purposes, etc. There may be some suggestions relative to having the Mint make such a medal but it would seem to me that if the government could contain itself on coins that this would be the proper method.

If I can ever be of any help to you, please do not hesitate to call upon me. Again, may I say what a pleasure to meet you and have the privilege of sitting next to Mrs. Seymour.

Sincerely yours,

If  
closure



VOLUME XVI, No. 1 Spring, 1967

Editor: ADOLPH BLOCK

Managing Editor: THEODORA MORGAN

Art Director: ERNEST M. OLSEN

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These remarks, condensed from a talk given before the American Numismatic Association, August 18, 1966, were accompanied by colored slides of monumental sculptured works and contrasting medals designed by the same sculptor.

On July 4th, 1966, President Johnson signed a bill which could have a most profound effect on the medallie history of our country. The bill created the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission to guide the 200th Anniversary celebration of American Independence ten years from now in 1976.

Our Congress and the President realized that it is not too early to start planning this important memorial event in our country's history. If the past is any indication, we can look forward to an outstanding celebration numismatically speaking. Medallie collections reveal many interesting examples of the Centennial celebration of 1876.

During the past 66 years of Medallie Art Company's growth we have seen the evolution of the sculptor as designer of our United States coins and medals, and the decline of the hand engraver — such as Barber and Morgan. Knowing and admiring some three generations of artists and sculptors, I feel strongly the responsibility we all have — manufacturer and numismatist alike — in today's world with its changing cultural values — to support and stimulate the artistic talent of today's fine sculptors.

These remarks are a shameless and unabashed plea for the appreciation of sculpture in numismatics, for the man behind the medal—the sculptor—for as we shall see, the sculptor is the silent partner of numismatics.

It is my belief that the present collector acquires medals for the wrong reasons. It is my hope to open up new vistas for your consideration, so that you may see and appreciate the beauty of the medal, and the great historical heritage that is available to the true and devoted collector.

The method of manufacturing the medal indeed determines its final appearance. There are basically two ways the dies can be created from which the medals are struck. One is by the preparation of a large scale model by a sculptor, where all the necessary details and relief can be obtained, and then his design is reduced to make a striking die. The second method is by cutting the die directly in the steel by means of punches, engraving tools and certain engraving machines. There is no question in my mind that the former method which utilizes the sculptor's model is the more artistic of the two, and obviously the more expensive. When this procedure is followed you have a true fine arts replica — sculpture in miniature. But then, if a medal is reproduced from a sculptor's model, this does not necessarily insure a quality piece, for the talent of the sculptor is the first real test of quality. Thus, the first factor in achieving a good medal must be the placement of the work in the hands of a competent sculptor.

We speak of a medal today, meaning any piece of metal that is cast or struck in any of a variety of sizes and shapes. They commemorate famous personages, anniversaries of towns, coin clubs, states, historic events. But no distinction is made between the various methods of manufacture. Therefore, I should like to propose a new term — "Art Medal". An Art Medal is one which is reduced from a sculptor's large scale bas-relief model with all the necessary detail and which is multiple-struck and given a patina to fully highlight and emphasize the sculptor's.

(Continued on page 26)

(over)

original design. This contrasts with the so-called medal, token-like in manufacture, which is struck only once from a mechanically prepared die.

Many of us seem to think that the sculptor devotes himself entirely to the art of the medal. If the truth be known, the greatest fame of these sculptors comes from the monumental and architectural work which we see all around us every day, and which we often fail to realize is the work of the same man who creates our medals. The art of the medal is a small part of the sculptor's truly broad talent.

Take for example Augustus St. Gaudens's Sherman monument which stands near the Plaza Hotel in New York City. The Head of Victory was originally intended by St. Gaudens for use on the cent. The same head with an Indian headdress was finally reproduced on the \$10 piece. Thus if you collect art medals you are truly collecting sculpture in miniature, and you will soon come to recognize the styles of the various sculptors, and go on to learn and appreciate the various monuments and architectural details which abound throughout our land.

We stand today on the threshold of many new and exciting developments in the medallie field. With today's new techniques, new materials, the sculptor has an even broader medium in which to work. Only his mind and his imagination set the limits of what can be done in the future. An Art Medal does not have to fit a vending machine, nor does it have to stack in a counting machine. The true collector will study Art Medals for their beauty, different subject matter, different sculptural techniques, modern vs. traditional, different materials, unusual patinas, different shapes, and not just because of rarity alone.

During the past 66 years the Medallie Art Company has produced well over 10,000 medallie units of different design. We are planning to catalog this entire collection. All these pieces will be listed according to the date produced, the sculptor of the work, the quantity reproduced, the material in which struck. This project will take several years, but when it is finished we will have a listing of from 500 to 1000 artists with whom we have worked over the many years of our growth.

With the new Mint being built in Philadelphia, and with the new rapid equipment which will be installed there, we feel that the ANA should press for a change in the law which permits a new type of coin design only every 25 years. Perhaps a more suitable interval would be ten or fifteen years. I have been talking about beauty and the need to appreciate the sculptor's art. By issuing

new coins with greater frequency, and by returning to the old tradition of commissioning directly our great sculptors, or by holding closed competitions, we will support our sculptors and will encourage competence in the field of bas-relief sculpture. Sculptors who are able to create good medals and coin designs are becoming scarce due in part to the trends of today's architecture and the influence of avant-garde sculpture. Why shouldn't our government, why shouldn't we as numismatists, support these men by making such commissions available. We must put the artist back on the pedestal where he belongs.

The ANA should be instrumental in introducing legislation to have an official coin struck, or several coins struck, to commemorate the 1976 Bicentennial of American Independence. Even if our present laws are not changed, several of our current coins will have passed their 25th birthday.

If you are now convinced that sculptors do play an important part in numismatics you can encourage the American sculptor by supporting a change in the coinage law, by encouraging a special issue of new American coinage to commemorate our Bicentennial, and by being selective in your medal collecting habits. I am convinced that we can revitalize and create a new interest in numismatics. We will place numismatics above the market place, we will put quality and historical background above rarity, and thereby recognize our sculptors as the vital, if silent, partners of numismatics.

*Reprinted from  
the*

*National Sculpture Review*

*Spring 1967*





MEDALLIC ART COMPANY

325 EAST 45 ST. • NEW YORK 10017

October 18, 1967

Mr. Carlisle H. Humelsine, President  
Colonial Williamsburg  
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

Dear Mr. Humelsine:

The list of names and addresses of the members of the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission was not enclosed in the envelope with your October 12th letter. 7 EP!

Enclosed herewith you will find a xerox copy of a speech given by our President, Mr. William T. Louth, before the American Numismatic Association in their convention in Chicago August, 1966.

Without wading through all of it, let me point out the first three paragraphs on page 1 and the last two paragraphs on page 15 which mention the coming celebration of the American Independence.

Our company is encouraging the use of more sculptors to make an artistic celebration of this important event. We wish to encourage nationwide competition among sculptors to design a commemorative medal for this bicentennial.

We would welcome your comments in this regard.

Sincerely yours,  
MEDALLIC ART COMPANY

  
D. Wayne Johnson  
Sales Promotion and  
Research Director

jk

These distinctions are so important - the artistic approach to a medal versus the mechanical. The single-struck piece versus the multiple-struck piece - that I think it calls for some new terminology to help guide the collector. We speak of a medal today, meaning any piece of metal that is cast or struck in any of a variety of sizes and shapes. They are struck to commemorate anniversaries of towns, coin clubs, state anniversaries, historic events, to commemorate famous personages, etc.

But nowhere in this definition is a distinction made between the various methods of manufacture. Therefore, I should like to propose a new term, and I want you numismatic writers, reporters and publication representatives here in the audience tonight to note this well. I am going to use this new term, and I hope you will too.

I propose the term "Art Medal" to be applied to those medals which are reproduced from sculptors' models <sup>and</sup> which are multiple-struck.

To be more specific, I will give you an exact definition of this new term: an Art Medal is one which is <sup>reproduced</sup> reduced from a sculptor's bas-relief model and which is multiple-struck <sup>or cast</sup> and given a patina to fully high-light and emphasize the sculptor's original design.

This new term is contrasted with "Medal" - the so-called medal which is token-like in manufacture; that is, any piece which is struck only once from a mechanically prepared die.

The process of preparing an "Art Medal" (notice I am using the new term) from the artist's original model to the finished product is an involved one, but I will take you step by step through this process via colored slides.

What is this I am holding in my hand? How many of you know? This is the material <sup>from</sup> from which medals are born - it is a basic raw material with which the sculptors work. It is plastiline. The sculptor shapes and works with this plastic material into the design that he wants. He later casts it in plaster, he has a broad latitude in which to work. He is not limited by size or shape or depth of relief. He is limited only by his own artistic

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During my business career I have had the unique experience of personally knowing the founders of Medallion Art Company - Henri and Felix Weil. Of working under the guiding genius of Clyde C. Trees, its President from 1920 to 1960, who was responsible for its growth during its formative years. But perhaps the greatest heritage that is mine is the rare personal privilege to have known and to have worked with such giants of the past as Adolph Weinman, John Flanagan, Chester Beach, Paul Manship, James Earle Fraser and Larua Gardin Fraser, whose names are familiar to so many of you. Knowing some three generations of artists and sculptors, I have grown to admire and appreciate more and more the work of the truly talented sculptor. But perhaps what is even more important, I feel the need and the responsibility that we all have - manufacturer and numismatist alike - in today's developing world, with its changing cultural values, to support, develop and stimulate the artistic talent of today's fine sculptors.

This speech is a shameless and unabashed plea for the appreciation of sculpture in numismatics - for the man behind the medal (the sculptor.) For, as we shall see, the sculptor is the silent partner of numismatics.

In a few moments we will look at some colored slides which will indicate how this quiet artisan works, how a medal is created, designed, how it can appear in many kinds of dress, how it is manufactured, and how one medal differs from another.

The numismatist of today really has no guidelines to help him in collecting medals. There are different methods of manufacture, different patinas, different methods of preparing the die, and there is certainly a lack of proper terminology in the advertising, so that the collector really doesn't know what he is getting when he orders a so-called medal. It is my further opinion that by and large the present collector collects medals for the wrong reasons. It is my hope tonight to open up some new vistas for you - so that you may see and appreciate the beauty of the medal, and the great historical heritage that is available to the true and devoted collector of the medal.

The method of manufacturing the medal indeed determines its final appearance. This is very important, and I want to make this point extremely clear. There are basically two ways in which dies can be created from which the medals are struck. One, is by the preparation of a large scale model by a sculptor, where all the necessary detail and relief can be obtained, and then his design is reduced to make the striking die. The second method is by cutting the die directly in the steel by means of punches, engraving tools, and certain engraving machines. There is no question in my mind that the former method, which utilizes the sculptor's model, is the more artistic of the two, and obviously <sup>the</sup> more expensive. When this procedure is followed, you have a true fine arts replica, sculpture in miniature. The slides will show this difference.

But then, if a medal is reproduced from a sculptor's model, this does not necessarily assure a quality piece, for the talent of the sculptor itself is the first real test of quality. Many models are sent to Medallion Art Company each year on private commission that in our opinion do not qualify as a fine art piece. Many designs are brought to us that are not well-developed, that we are asked to translate into medallion form. The most talented sculptor could not salvage these pieces. The first point I wish to make, therefore, is <sup>that</sup> the numismatist who wishes a good medal must place himself in the hands of a competent sculptor and accept his advice.

There are still other qualities to be considered within the classification of the medal reproduced from sculptors' model. Is the medal; a coin-medal only struck once, or is it multiple-struck? Has it a proof finish, natural finish, no finish at all, or has it a statuary patina?

These distinctions are so important - the artistic approach to a medal versus the mechanical. The single-struck piece versus the multiple-struck piece - that I think it is for some new terminology to help guide the collector. We speak of a medal today, meaning any piece of metal that is cast or struck in any of a variety of sizes and shapes. They are struck to commemorate anniversaries of towns, coin clubs, state anniversaries, historic events, to commemorate famous personages, etc.

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What is this I am holding in my hand? How many of you know? This is the material from which <sup>ART</sup> medals are born - it is a basic raw material with which the sculptors work. It is plastiline. The sculptor shapes and works with this plastic material into the design that he wants. He later casts it in plaster, he has a broad latitude in which to work. He is not limited by size or shape or depth of relief. He is limited only by his own artistic

sense. A medal does not have to fit a vending machine, nor does it have to stack in a counting machine. If he is designing a coin or a token, of course, he has certain limitations. In addition to his hands, he uses a variety of tools to carve and to shape in three dimensions.

Thus, you have now begun to enter the wonderful world of designing <sup>FAST</sup>medals. If you will settle back, we will dim the lights and view some of the color and the human interest of this fascinating field of sculpture - the silent partner of numismatics.

### SLIDE DIALOGUE

Felix Weil

Who is the sculptor? What kind of man is he? Here we see Henri Weil - the founder of Medallie Art Company. And, Felix Weil - his brother who joined him a few years later - both competent medalists.

Felix Weil

In the early days of the company they performed all of the necessary functions to produce the finished product, including much of the manufacturing as well as the patination of the work.

Clyde C. Trees

In 1920 Clyde C. Trees joined the company as President and was responsible for the wide acceptance of medallie art for award purposes among this country's leading industrial and cultural organizations.

Sculptor's Party

The Medallie Art Company has always recognized its obligation to the sculptor and the need to develop a rapport and understanding with him, and the need for supporting this cultural aspect of our country's life. Here we see a group of sculptors attending a dinner party in 1930 in the small plant of Medallie Art Company. Gathered here are many of the sculptors whom the numismatists would

...ester Beach, Anthony del Rande, and many others too numerous to mention. This is a rare picture.

#### Two Weil Brothers

We thought this picture would interest you even in its faded condition, for it shows the two Weil brothers when they were young men, taking a coffee break which they evidently had even in the early 1900's.

#### Ralph Menconi

Today the modern sculptor works in a studio with the same tools and techniques as his predecessor. Note the size of the sculptor's model on which Ralph Menconi is working. Many of us seem to think that the sculptor devotes himself to the art of the medal. However, if the truth be known, the greatest fame of these sculptors comes from the monumental and architectural work which we see all around us every day, and which we often fail to realize is the work of the same man who does our medallic work. The art of the medal is a small part of the sculptor's truly broad talent.

#### Supreme Court Pediment

The next series of slides will help to emphasize this point and show some comparison between the sculptor's heroic work and his medallic work. Here in the first slide we see Adolph Weinman's Supreme Court Pediment, which most of us have noticed on our trips to Washington without perhaps stopping to recognize its artist.

#### Adolph Weinman Medal

Note the similarity in the modeling technique of the figures in this <sup>first</sup> medal by Mr. Weinman.

#### is figure

Lee Lawrie's Atlas - Rockefeller Center - which most of us have seen, with its massive male torso.

#### Lawrie Medal

Here is Mr. Lawrie's medallion for the Society of Medalists, one of the most outstanding pieces of medallic art in our collection. Note the simplicity of the design, yet the powerful composition

St. Gaudens's  
Sherman

St. Gaudens's figure of Sherman which stands near the Plaza Hotel in New York. The Head of Victory was originally intended by St. Gaudens for the cent. The same head with an Indian headdress was finally reproduced on the \$10 piece.

St. Gaudens's Medal

Shown here is the Congressional Medal to commemorate the Bicentennial of Benjamin Franklin's birth.

Prometheus Statue

Paul Manship's Prometheus - probably one of the best known pieces of sculpture in this country due to its location, in front of Rockefeller Center.

Paul Manship  
Medal

Here is Manship's Society of Medalists issue. Note the same decorative, classical treatment. Mr. Manship was truly one of our outstanding medalists.

Donald DeLue's  
Rocket Thrower

Donald DeLue's Rocket Thrower - which appeared at the 1965-66 New York World's Fair.

Donald DeLue's  
Medal

Notice the similarity of the Rocket Thrower figure and the treatment of the figures in this Hall of Fame 50th Anniversary Medallion.

Robert Weinman

Robert Weinman, son of Adolph Weinman, created this ecclesiastical sculpture for the main entrance of our Lady of Perpetual Help in Queens, New York

Robert Weinman  
Medal

Shown here is Mr. Weinman's American Institute of Architects Medal presented to their Past Presidents. Portrait is shown on the obverse.

Marshall Fredericks  
Detroit Veterans  
Center

You are all familiar with Marshall Fredericks and the fine work he did for the ANA convention medal in Detroit. Here is seen his Detroit Veterans Center with a massive eagle carved in marble on the front of the building.

Medal

Company medallion.

Albino Manca East Coast War Memorial

Albino Manca's East Coast War Memorial which was dedicated by President Kennedy.

Albino Manca Medal-

Here is the <sup>first</sup> medal that was designed by Mr. Manca to commemorate this significant event.

End of Trail

James Earle Fraser, designer and sculptor of the Buffalo nickel, and perhaps his most famous piece of American sculpture - the End of the Trail.

Fraser Medal

Here is his Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Association Medal - a truly outstanding piece of work, reflecting the talent of this great sculptor, both as a sculptor of heroic work, as well as in the field of bas-relief.

Thus, if you collect <sup>first</sup> medals you are truly collecting sculpture in miniature, and you will soon come to recognize the styles of the various sculptors, and go on to learn and appreciate the various monuments and architectural details which abound throughout <sup>our</sup> land.

The Janvier Machine - The secret of today's fine medals is the Janvier die-reducing machine. As shown in the picture, a mold of the large size model - the original the sculptor creates - is placed on the right-hand side of the machine, and by means of a delicate tracing point, the design is transferred through a series of cuttings, often taking as long as a week, into a block of steel on the left-hand side of the machine. This die is then hardened and placed in a large press.

Thousand Ton  
Press  
2 pictures

Thousand Ton Press - This press shown in this picture rises some 30' from the floor and weighs some 40 tons, and develops pressures up to a thousand tons. <sup>P&T</sup> Medals are often struck as many as 7 or 8 blows before they are fully finished. Between each striking the medal is annealed.

Trimming Press

After the medals are struck they are then trimmed on a high speed lathe or forced through trimming dies.

Process Set

Shown here is a Process Set, showing a piece of material, a blank, the first blow, the second blow, the third blow, the trimmed medal, the sandblasted medal, the final oxidation and patination processes.

Patination Picture

After <sup>P&T</sup> a medal is struck, trimmed and sandblasted it is oxidized, then buffed by hand on a buffing wheel. It is later scrubbed and further highlighted by hand with light brushes. It is then given a coat of lacquer.

Patination Process  
Set

In this next slide you see a medal bright as it has come from a press. The next step - the medal has merely been sandblasted and relieved. This is to give a very light golden finish. This can be a final patina. If you prefer a darker finish <sup>P&T</sup> the medal is then oxidized, as shown in the third sequence, and relieved to give the highlights as shown in the final piece.

Torch Color  
Patination

In addition to the natural bronze patinas, it is possible for us to silverplate, goldplate, or by the means of heat and acid - develop special torch color patinas. Some of these, to my way of thinking, are the most beautiful. Here you see the torch colors being applied.

## Two Patina Pictures

A true medal collector should eagerly seek such unusual and different pieces as those shown in these photographs. It is possible to obtain browns, blues and practically any other combination of colors that you so desire.

## Proof Patina

Here is a coin medal being removed from a set of proof dies. I have no argument with those who prefer this type of piece - in fact, Medallie Art prepares such pieces themselves. But I want it understood I do not consider this to be a true medal, for the piece is struck only once to obtain the proof finish. Actually, this proof patina which is appealing to many, is no finish whatsoever, but is taken from the highly polished dies and placed directly in the box or shipping container.

## Different Shapes and sizes

One of the most interesting aspects of medal collecting is the different shapes which can be obtained. An Art Medal need not be round, but as you can see, there is no limitation whatsoever.

## Modern versus Traditional

The Art Medal can be as modern or as traditional as you wish. Shown here are Seymour Lipton's designs - one of our modern-day avant-garde artists, as compared with the work of Leonard Grunelle, a Chicago sculptor. So, once again, your taste may follow any course you so direct.

## Hall of Fame , General Motors Presidential Art Medals

Here you see many different forms of medallic art, ranging in size, shape, subject matter and sculptural technique. Some sculptors have a tendency to model in high relief, some in medium relief, some in low. Some have a tendency to be very simple in their design, others have a tendency to be more complex. Note the General Motors medal made over 25 years ago and how its design

## Materials

Many different materials can be used, ranging from bronze, copper, silver, gold, aluminum. And here again, the collector is offered an opportunity to build a collection in many different avenues.

## Clad Material

Even a combination of patinas can be obtained by masking and plating with different materials. However, some of the new clad materials offer even greater promise, and we are, at the present time, in the process of executing a medallion in which each half of the medallion will be in a different material.

## High versus Low

Here are two Lincoln medallions - one of very modest relief, the other of extremely high relief. What an interesting study for the collector to find such subjects, and then study how the different sculptors have seen fit to handle the modeling technique.

## Side Shot

The side view even emphasizes this to a greater extent.

## Tokens

Here are some of the so-called medals-extremely low in relief, struck from dies that are nothing more than engraved lines. They do not compare with the other pieces that have been shown to you, and yet they are advertised as medals.

## Medallic Art Showroom

PKT

Medals offer another great advantage for they can be used as a means of decoration or display in the home, and although these pictures are of our showroom in New York, it may give you an idea or two. I again wish to emphasize to the collector the importance of recognizing the beauty to be found in a medal, the great variations that are his, and the great historical heritage, for truly in these showrooms you can trace the history of our country in medals which commemorate the invention of the reaper,

## LIGHTS ON

Now, perhaps you can see why I get so enthused when I talk about medallic art. We are on the threshold of so many exciting developments in the medallic field. With today's new techniques, new materials, the sculptor has an even broader media in which to work. Only his mind and his imagination <sup>SET</sup> are the limits of what can be done in the future. The true collector will collect medals for their beauty, different subject matter, different sculptural techniques, different materials, unusual patinas, <sup>and some</sup> not because of rarity alone. During the past 66 years we have produced, and we do not know the exact number ourselves, we estimate that we have made well over 10,000 different medallic units of ~~medallic~~ different design. Some of these were intended as collector's items, but most are award medals, made to honor our heroes, our business leaders, our educators, our professional men, our artists. New designs will be created at an even more rapid pace.

I said earlier in this speech that I had an announcement to make. Actually, I have four announcements to make. My first announcement is that Medallic Art Company is going to catalogue its entire collection of medallic art - something that has never been done before. All of these pieces will be listed according to the date produced, the sculptor, the quantity, the material in which struck. Unfortunately, some of these pieces have been lost even to ourselves, but we will try to make this record as complete as possible. It is expected that this project will take several years to accomplish, but in my opinion, when it is finished we will have a listing of from 500 to 1000 different artists with whom we have worked over the many years of our growth.

Why hasn't the United States numismatist been more interested in medals? Perhaps it is because the art is still relatively young in this country, and our historical background ~~law~~. Some say there are too many medals, others - not enough. Some say issues are too limited. False scarcity is created. Others feel the issues are too large. Some argue -

people just don't know enough about medals, and that there is a general lack of publicized material available. Certainly no Red Book of medals exists, but the publication of this Medallion Art catalogue may help to lead the way, and to help make a step in the right direction. This catalogue will certainly be an historical record of great importance, and will help the collector to recognize a piece when it is found and to know details of its issue.

My second announcement is a proposal, and one which I believe the collector will find of great interest. Certain new coin designs, and I will be specific here - the Kennedy half dollar, the memorial reverse of the Lincoln head cent, and the Roosevelt dime, were all hastily produced. This is not to be considered a criticism of the engravers of the United States Mint. These men did an extremely creditable job with the time restrictions imposed upon them. The best example of this is the reverse Lincoln head cent. The design was not approved by the administration until December 21, 1958, and minting of the new reverse and cent was expected to commence on January 6, 1959, eight working days later. We must allow more time and give greater consideration to our coin designs. A great opportunity was missed in this instance to create a new medallion masterpiece.

With the new Mint being built in Philadelphia, and with the new rapid equipment which will be installed there, I feel the ANA should press for a change in the law which permits a new type of coin design only every 25 years. Perhaps a proper interval would be ten or fifteen years. This certainly would revitalize and strengthen the time-honored hobby of coin collecting and would enable us to commemorate with greater frequency those events and personages of historical importance. But I want to make it clear that this is not my primary purpose in making this suggestion. My primary reason is the American sculptor <sup>who</sup> is forgetting how to design a coin. I have been talking about beauty and the need to appreciate the sculptor's art. By issuing new coins with greater

frequency, and by returning to the old tradition of commissioning directly our great sculptors, or by holding closed competitions, we will support our sculptors and will, in a sense, create more engravers capable of doing this fine work for the Mint. ~~Our~~ <sup>For</sup> sculptors who are capable of creating good medals and coin designs are becoming more scarce, for in modern architecture, and in modern art, the traditional form of sculpture is dying. Why shouldn't our government, why shouldn't we as numismatists, support these men by making such commissions available? We must put the artist back on the pedestal where he belongs.

My third proposal is that the ANA should be instrumental in introducing legislation to have an official coin struck, or several coins struck, to commemorate the 1976 Bicentennial of American Independence. Even if our present laws were not changed, several of our current coins will have passed their 25th birthday. Certainly, this event should be commemorated in this way. The ANA should take the leadership in pushing for proper Congressional action. I have here two resolutions which I am turning over to your President, Mr. Matt Rothert, for introduction at the business meeting next Saturday morning, to cover these two particular points.

The previous suggestions cannot be implemented by myself alone. However, the fourth and final announcement is one which does emphasize the sincere interest we have in promoting art medals. ~~The previous proposals, as well as the following, emphasize our interest in fulfilling the American sculptor's interest in Bas-relief Sculpture.~~ The Medallic Art Company is placing \$3000 in escrow to be used as prize money in a nationwide competition to design a medal to commemorate this Bicentennial. It is hoped this medal will be one of the finest ever produced in this country. The Medallic Art Company will welcome the participation of the American Numismatic Association, or any other group who feel that this is a worthwhile endeavor. Since this event is some ten years away careful consideration will have to be given to the rules and other details

Page 13.  
the competition. Details will be announced at the soonest possible date.

Every numismatist has a part to play. If you are now convinced that sculptors play an important part in numismatics you can encourage the American sculptor by supporting a change in the coinage law - by encouraging a special issue of new American coinage to commemorate our Bicentennial - and by being selective in your medal collecting habits. You may take exhibits and give talks before local groups, emphasizing the art aspect of our medallion art heritage. If these suggestions I have made are implemented I am convinced that we will revitalize and create a new interest in numismatics. We will be placing numismatics above the market place, we will be putting quality and historical background above rarity, and thereby recognizing our *we shall be* sculptors as the silent but vital partner of numismatics.



enc 2

# MEDALLIC ART COMPANY

325 EAST 45 ST. • NEW YORK 10017

October 18, 1967

Mr. Carlisle H. Humelsine, President  
Colonial Williamsburg  
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

Dear Mr. Humelsine:

The list of names and addresses of the members of the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission was not enclosed in the envelope with your October 12th letter. 7 EP!

Enclosed herewith you will find a xerox copy of a speech given by our President, Mr. William T. Louth, before the American Numismatic Association in their convention in Chicago August, 1966.

Without wading through all of it, let me point out the first three paragraphs on page 1 and the last two paragraphs on page 15 which mention the coming celebration of the American Independence.

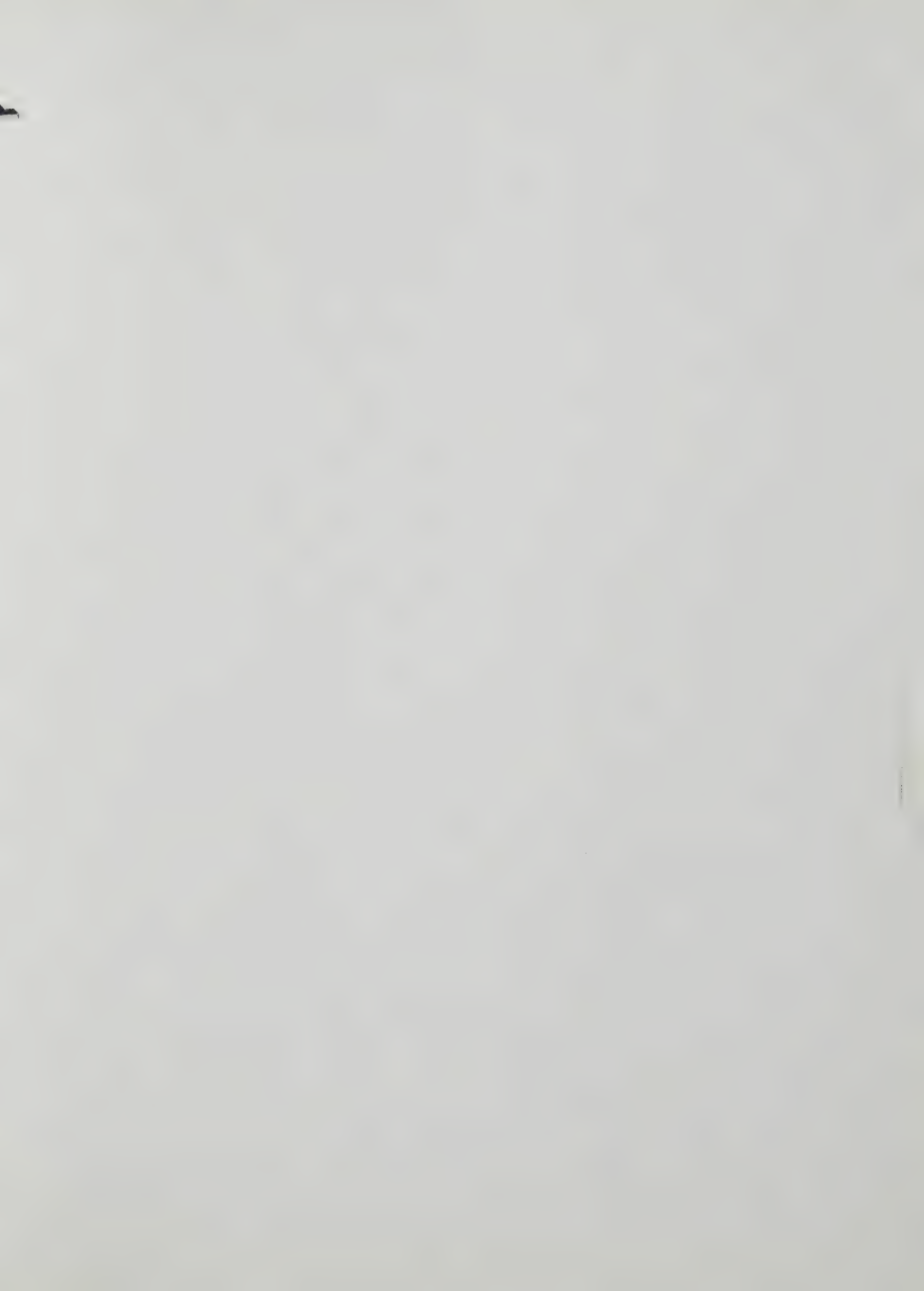
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We would welcome your comments in this regard.

Sincerely yours,  
MEDALLIC ART COMPANY

*D. Wayne Johnson*  
D. Wayne Johnson  
Sales Promotion and  
Research Director

jk



FEB 30 9 52 AM '70

BICENTENNIAL  
COMMISSION

THE FRANKLIN MINT

YEADON, PENNSYLVANIA U.S.A.

February 25, 1970

Mr. Hugh Hall  
Deputy Executive Director  
American Revolution Bicentennial  
Commission  
Lafayette Building, Suite 319  
811 Vermont Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20242

Dear Mr. Hall:

Once again thank you, Mr. Williams and Mr. Morrison for your time and attention last Wednesday. I am joined by Mr. Segel in these sentiments.

During our discussions with Mr. Williams he said he would welcome suggestions for membership on the board which will be asked to advise the committee of the Commission regarding coins/medals. Our suggestions with brief identifications follow:

|                |                                                                                                         |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Academia:      | Dr. Roy Nichols, Department of History, University of Pennsylvania                                      |
| Numismatics:   | Dr. V. Clain-Stefanelli, Curator, Division of Numismatics, Smithsonian Institution                      |
| Merchandising: | Mr. Arthur C. Kaufmann, former Executive head, Gimbel's, Philadelphia, Pa.                              |
| Legislative:   | Honorable Lawrence G. Williams, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, 7th District, Pennsylvania |

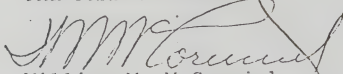
Under separate cover we are sending the Executive Director that portion of The Franklin Mint History of the United States in solid Franklin Proof-like Bronze which has been issued to date

AMERICAN  
REVOLUTION  
BICENTENNIAL  
COMMISSION  
MAR 2 10 25 AM '70

and we will continue to send him additional medals as they are issued. This series is a gift to the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission for such use as they may wish to make of it.

Sincerely yours,

THE FRANKLIN MINT

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'W. M. McCormick', written over the printed name.

William M. McCormick  
Rear Admiral, USN (Ret.)  
Vice President

WMMcC/sfw



Maurice M. Gould

Post Office Box 2407, Sepulveda, California 91343

January 11, 1970

Mr. Hugh A. Hall, Deputy Executive Director  
American Revolution, Bicentennial Commission  
S. 319, Lafayette Bldg., 811 Vermont Ave., N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20242

Dear Hugh:

It was nice talking to you and I am sorry we could not get together on your last trip.

First - I salvaged from my files one of my syndicated columns, which I wrote back in 1967, and my views have not changed much since then. I am enclosing it for your inspection.

I would like to recommend a few people to you, as per our discussion. All of them are devoted and learned numismatists and they may be of some help to you.

*John Ford:*

Thomas W. Becker, Franklin Mint, Yeadon Industrial Park, Yeadon, Pa. 19050  
Charles R. Hoskins, Director National Bank of Detroit Money Museum, Woodward at  
Fort, Detroit, Michigan 48232

Eric P. Newman, 6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri  
Kenneth Bressett, Whitman Publishing Co., 1220 Mount Ave., Racine, Wisconsin 53404  
David Powers, 11975 E. Florence, Santa Fe Springs, California 90670  
Leonard Finn, 40 Greston Road, West Roxbury, Massachusetts 02132  
Alfred Hoch, Tower Road, RFD 1, Lincoln, Mass. 01773

\* Clifford Wishler, Editor, Numismatic News, Iola, Wisconsin 54945

*Bruce*

All of the above are knowledgeable and important collectors or museum directors, etc. and if you do need any more top names, I will be pleased to furnish them.

I still believe that a commemorative coin should be issued for such an important occasion as the 200th anniversary of our country. I know that millions of collectors would be interested, whether they be in the stamps or coins, or have some other hobby, as I have found that commemorative pieces are highly prized by them, an example being the Columbian Exposition half dollar, which people purchased in 1893 and they are now considered family heirlooms. The public would be especially interested and with the great amount of publicity for the

Author of "The American Revolution in Tremendous Demand."

and articles for General Features Corporation

- affiliate of Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

Lecturer, instructor in Numismatics.

Fellow, Royal Numismatic Society.

Fellow, Canadian Numismatic Research Society.

Life Member, American Numismatic Association.

Life Member, Canadian Numismatic Association.

Life Member, Numismatic Literary Guild.



## MEDALS

1. Mar 20, '69 - RLCarroll office memo to ARBC files. SUBJECT: Contest of Field Trip to NYC on March 10-11, 1969.
2. Apr 21, '69 - Ltr from Roy I. Moss of Dory Duplicates Co., to ARBC. Summary: Promotes company as source of reproductions of coins of Colonial America. Enc. listing of coins now available and few samples of company's quality.
3. May 19, '69 - Ltr from ARBC to Roy I. Moss. Acknowledges Moss' ltr of 4/21/69. Summary: Will be in touch.
4. Nov 10, '69 - Ltr from ARBC HAHall to Fred W. Tate, Dep. Dir. of the Mint. Enc. copies of ARBC enabling legislation and funding legislation. Requests copy of the Mint Policy on commemorative medals. Also requests list of organizations, commissions that have produced commem. medals for U.S. Mint.
5. Dec 1, '69 - Fact Sheet on the Franklin Mint.
6. Feb 10, '70 - Ltr from Wm McCormick (Franklin Mint) to ARBC Hugh Hall. Enc. "Samples" and wants to know when he should be available for a proposal and presentation.
7. Mar 4, '70 - Memo from ARBC Hugh Hall to files. SUMMARY: USIA (Phil Conley) has been requested to review ARBC commem. medals program prior to inclusion in report to President.
8. Mar 17, '70 - Ltr from Fred W. Tate (Act. Dir. of Mint) to Mr. J.A. Naser of Cicero, Illinois in reply to Naser's 3/13/70 letter to Mint Dept for request that U.S. Gov't issue a coin to commemorate 200th Anniversary. Submits design by his 10-year old daughter, Marijo. Has forwarded Naser's letter to ARBC for action.
9. Mar 23, '70 - Ltr from ARBC Hugh Hall to JANaser. Summary: Ack. ltr and that consideration will be given to design by his daughter. Original sketch returned to daughter. Copy kept for ARBC to study.
10. Mar 23, '70 - Ltr from ARBC Hugh Hall to Miss Marijo Naser of Illinois. SUMMARY: Ack her design for commemorative medal or coin.

STAMPS / MEDALS / COINS  
(General)

1. May 24, '68 -- Ltr from Melville Bernstein (Pres., National Bicentennial Productions, Inc., New York) to ARBC Humelsine.  
SUMMARY: Sales pitch on Nat'l Bic. products. Asks for Commission's endorsement.
2. Jun 10, '68 -- Ltr from ARBC Roger Leclere to M. Bernstein.  
Ack. ltr and info provided by Bernstein on his products.
3. Nov 18, '68 -- Ltr from Robert C. Gramberg (Illinois) to ARBC.  
SUMMARY: Has reproduction of 10,000 (20 x 24) Lithographs of "The Battle of the American Revolution." Wants to send advance first plate "The Battle of Lexington". Wishes to have suggested ARBC mailing list for distribution.
4. Dec 9, '68 -- Ltr from Godfrey Harris (ARBC) to Robt. C. Gramberg.  
SUMMARY: Ack ltr of Nov. 18; unfortunately, no mailing list available. Suggests larger publishing houses.
5. Mar \_\_, '68 -- "Instruction Sheet" for competition by artists and designers to create insignia for the "Old Monterey" Bicentennial Celebration.
6. Mar 11, '69 -- Ltr from Mrs. Howard M. Stein (Exec. Secy of Nat'l Sculpture Society) to RLCarroll. SUMMARY: Encloses sculpture competition forms requested by RLCarroll. Makes available services of Michael Lantz, presently assigned to Wash., D.C., for consultation on procedures for medal competition.
7. Mar 19, '69 -- Ltr from John B. Finigan, Chairman, Town of Concord 1975 Celebration Committee, to ARBC RBarrett.  
SUMMARY: Does not plan to pursue issuance of commemorative coin(s) at present unless requested to. Committee will examine several aspects relating to the issuance of stamps and medals. Plans to keep ARBC informed; requests vice versa.
8. Mar 25, '69 -- Ltr from ARBC RBarrett to John B. Flanigan.  
Summary: Ack ltr of March 19, and thanks for commemorative half dollar and stamps issued to observe the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Concord & Lexington. Will be in touch.

STAMPS / MEDALS / COINS  
(General)

9. Mar 23, '69 - Ltr from Robt C. Gramberg to ARBC Godfrey Harris.  
SUMMARY: Refers to his (Gramberg's) ltr of 12/29/68 in which he purposed to publish series of lithographs. Hopes to have first plate "Battle of Lexington" completed. Again asks for ARBC mail list or suggested names.
10. Apr 7, '69 - (Ltr should have been May 7, 69). From Gramberg to ARBC Godfrey Harris. SUMMARY: Has completed first plate "The Battle of the Revolutionary War" Again asks for mailing list.
11. May 19, '69 - Ltr to Gramberg from ARBC Godfrey Harris.  
SUMMARY: Ack letter of 3/23/69 and 5/7/69. ARBC accepts first plate "The Battle of the Revolutionary War" on terms that it is not taken as any form of official endorsement. Advises when deliverance of plate should be.
12. Apr 23, '69 - Ltr from SFC John F. Keebler (Alabama) to ARBC; encloses copy of letter to Director of the Mint. Ltr to Miss Adams of Mint Dept dtd 3/16/69. Summary: Offers suggestions with regard to silver stockpile; having contest for best designs of coins for 1976. States Mint is wasting money producing half dollars that contain silver; suggests copper-nickel.
13. Sep 12, '69 - Ltr from George M. Cooke (Jas. H. Matthew & Comp.) to ARBC to RL Carroll. SUMMARY: Wishes appointment with ARBC to show samples and ideas in connection with Bicentennial.
14. Nov 14, '69 - Ltr from ARBC HAHall to Geo. E. Lang, V. Pres. of Restaurant Associates Industries, Inc. SUMMARY: ARBC will include policy of the U.S. Mint in summary report to G. Lang. Has already rec'd proposals and/or correspondence relating to comm. medals from Dory Duplicates, Medallie Art Corp., and Paramount International Coin Corp. Request Lang have comprehensive recommendation ready by January Commission mtg.
15. Dec 2, '69 - Memo from ARBC Rodger Abraham to ARBC files. Summary: Commemorative issue of currency that might be overly printed in honor of Bicen. ARBC will request in ltr to Treas. Secy that Bur. of Engrav & Printng study the matter.
16. Dec 10, '69 - Ltr from ARBC HAHall to Maurice M. Gould (California)  
SUMMARY: Wishes to meet with Gould to discuss numismatic field in connection with Bicentennial.
17. Jan 2, '70 - Ltr from ARBC HAHall to Director of Mint (Mary T. Brooks).  
Thanks Treas. for valuable comprehensive ltr and supporting material on comm. coins and medals.

STAMPS / MEDALS / COINS  
(General)

18. Jan 27, '70 - Inter-office Memo from RAbraham to RLCarroll re medals and stamps: Identification of Subjects. Requests RLC to contact Exec Dir. of American Historical Society for assistance re medals and stamps.
19. Feb 17, '70 - Proposed Resolution on Coins and Medals, drafted by HAH  
(Note at bottom of first page states "this draft was not used")  
(HAHall states this is to be rewritten as a report)
20. Feb 17, '70 - Draft by MJSay "Proposed Resolutions - Coins & Medals"
21. Feb 25, '70 - Ltr from Wm M. McCormick (The Franklin Mint Co.) to ARBC Hugh Hall. SUMMARY: Presents names for membership on the Board which will advise committee of the Commission regarding coins/medals. Sending under separate cover the Franklin Mint History of the U.S. in solid Franklin Proof-like Bronze.
22. Mar 4, '70 - Ltr from ARBC HAHall to Wm McCormick. SUMMARY: Ack 2/25/70  
ltr from Mc Cormick.
23. Mar 12, '70 - Ltr from HAHall to Hon. Mary T. Brooks (Director of Mint).  
SUMMARY: Requests advisor from U.S. Mint to serve on Advisory Panel on the Commemorative Medals and Coins Study.
24. Mar 17, '70 - Note from ARBC HAHall to files: SUMMARY: Bureau of Printing and Engraving (Conlon) relating to overprinting dollars, etc. bonds (logo) certificates w/logo

